FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 JULY 1983

PLO Affairs

Moscow Visits — A PLO delegation headed by International Department chief Faruq Qaddumi arrived in Moscow for talks with Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko on the latest developments in Palestinian affairs, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Although San'a' Voice of Palestine radio said Qaddumi's delegation will pave the way for PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's forthcoming visit, 'Arafat himself announced in a BBC interview reported by AFP that he does not plan to visit Moscow "at this stage." Meanwhile, PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum also left for Moscow for a 3-day visit, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

'Arafat Interview — While refusing to apologize for his accusations against Syria, Yasir 'Arafat said he is ready to do "everything" to improve relations with it. Speaking in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo, 'Arafat reiterated his appeal to President Hafiz al-Asad to stop the "deterioration and collapse" in the Al-Biqa' valley. He renewed his accusations of Syrian and Libyan involvement on the side of the Fatah dissidents and confirmed his willingness to withdraw Fatah loyalists from Al-Biqa' to avoid further bloodshed and fratricide. Asked about his expulsion from Syria, 'Arafat expressed astonishment at what happened, asserting that he had been invited to Damascus for talks with Syrian Defense Squads Commander Rif'at al-Asad, who said he was authorized by President al-Asad to resolve all outstanding problems with 'Arafat. Responding to accusations that he has followed the "bandwagon of settlements and capitulation," 'Arafat said he rejected President Reagan's offer to receive a Palestinian representative in the White House immediately if the PLO accepted Security Council Resolution 242 or the Reagan plan.

Lebanon

Two IDF soldiers were killed and 16 others were injured by a bomb explosion west of Hasbayya in southern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. The Lebanese National Resistance claimed responsibility for the attack, according to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio.

Meanwhile, three Lebanese were killed when shells hit the Christian coastal area north of Beirut after renewed Druze-Christian clashes in the Ash-Shuf area, Beirut radio reported. Lebanese sources cited by MENA said Lebanese Army units are in a state of alert to fill any security vacuum that might occur in the Ash-Shuf as a result of further Israeli withdrawals. Lebanese authorities are attempting to secure Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt's assent to a Lebanese Army deployment in the area, the sources noted. In another development, France denied reports that it has agreed to send 3,000 more soldiers to Lebanon to reinforce the multinational force and help fill the security vacuum caused by a partial Israeli withdrawal, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Libya

Defection of Amman Envoy — The Libyan ambassador to Amman has "defected" because of political differences with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's regime, AFP reported. Monitored Libyan and Jordanian media have not mentioned the defection.

Statements, Reportage on Chad — Libya will consider the dispatch of French forces to Chad as equivalent to a military action against the Jamahiriyah, thus giving it the right to intervene, the Libyan People's Bureau secretary in Paris announced in a French press interview reported by JANA. In other reports, JANA noted that spokesmen for Goukouni Oueddei's forces "refuted" Chadian Government claims to have recaptured Abeche from Goukouni's "National Liberation Army." Amid various claims about the military situation by spokesmen for Goukouni and Chadian President Hissein Habre, Radio Monte Carlo said there are no confirmed reports on who is controlling Abeche.

Morocco

Moroccan forces repulsed renewed Polisario attacks in the Western Sahara, MAP reported. In two engagements near Al-Masid the Moroccans destroyed 14 armored vehicles and killed 50 "mercenaries" at a cost of 2 killed and 30 others wounded, MAP said.

Meanwhile, the SADR Information Ministry said King Hassan's recent announcement that Morocco will not give up the Sahara even if it loses the referendum confirms the Kingdom's "intransigence" and "absolute rejection" of the OAU resolution on the Saharan issue, APS reported.

Iran

An Iranian Air Force captain flew his F-5 aircraft to Turkey in order to seek political asylum in the United States, ANATOLIA reported.

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Libyan Envoy to Jordan Confirms Defection
NC111849 Paris AFP in English 1843 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Amman, July 11 (AFP) — Libyan Ambassador to Amman 'Aziz Omar Shennib tonight confirmed to AFP that he had defected, giving his reasons as major differences between himself and the regime of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

He said in a statement that he found it impossible to accept the internal and external policies of the Libyan leader. "I have reached an impasse. It is impossible for me to continue to collaborate with this regime," he said.

'Arafat Interviewed on Syria, PLO Split, Lebanon
JN112031 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1717 GMT 11 Jul 83

["Text" of undated interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre of Abu 'Ammar, by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Nabil Darwish in Tunis — recorded]

[Text] [Nabil Darwish] Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and the official spokesman for the Fatah movement, with these titles you assume, Abu 'Ammar, most states would consider you the first man. In other words, you are the Palestinians' number one man. Still, recent events, or the recent demands made from Lebanon's Al-Biqa', while speaking of you as the symbol of the Palestinian revolution, have called for a collective leadership. Can Abu 'Ammar be a symbol only, that is, a president without a presidential system as is the case, for example, in the FRG?

[Yasir 'Arafat] First, I would like to say that I have not reached this post backed by a tank, by an Arab decision, or in accordance with a plan that had been formulated by the U.S. Pentagon or the CIA. I do not consider myself the first man. I consider myself a fighter in the ranks of the Palestinian revolution. I carry weapons. I carry out the struggle in all its forms and through various means. I fight with the gun and the olive branch, and with the political decision that protects the military decision. From this premise, I and my brothers have a clear idea on these matters, irrespective of what some say or brag about, repeating some words of Arab intelligence organs.

I would like to tell them: Do these Arab intelligence organs, from which they receive their orders, have the courage to deal with their leaders as the Palestinian fighters deal with their leaders in the PLO and in Fatah? We say this calmly. As for the responsibility, we must keep in mind that it is a heavy responsibility. We did indeed offer "the trust to the heavens and the earth and the mountains; but they refused to undertake it, being afraid therefore; but man undertake it; he was indeed unjust and foolish" [Koranic verse]. That's why I wish that every Palestinian child, every Arab child, every Arab man, every Palestinian man, every Palestinian woman, and every Arab woman would share this responsibility with me. Then we would be able to shoulder this responsibility.

[Darwish] Before dealing with the dissident movement in Fatah, allow me, Brother Abu 'Ammar, to begin this interview with a question I had put to you in an interview after your departure from Beirut. The question was about your relations, or more specifically, about your differences with Syria. At that time, you told me, Brother Abu 'Ammar: You, — and by this you had in mind the journalists — want to create differences between me and Syria. In all your interviews, you refused to discuss this question. How do you feel now, after the decision to expel you from Damascus, and has this relationship reached what is usually called a deadend?

['Arafat] Nothing has changed. I will not tread these labyrinths. My brothers and I are very careful to open a window if they close a door and to open a hatch if they close a window because this relationship is a fateful one between us and this brave, struggling and fraternal people — the Syrian people. If we go back to the Ottoman rule, which controlled this region for some 500 years, all of us are of one origin. Syria constituted northern Palestine and Palestine constituted southern Syria. If we proceed from a national viewpoint, we are the sons of one Arab nation; we have the same fate, aspirations, the same hopes, and the same enemy. Our battle is the same. That is why no practices will make me deviate from my clear concept of this relationship, its genuineness, depth, and radiance.

[Darwish] Then why, Abu 'Ammar, have you been expelled from Syria? The Syrians say that you are denying the Syrian people's sacrifices and are slandering and abusing Syria. In your opinion, why have you been expelled?

['Arafat] May God forgive them if they say so. May God forgive them because from the national and Arab viewpoint we are the sons of one nation. I have in Damascus as much as any Syrian has in Jerusalem. This must be clear. The pan-Arab slogans must not remain on paper; they must be practiced. Therefore, no one can distort the Palestinian revolution's stand at all. I have fought with the Syrians and with the Syrian Army in many locations in the Arab nation. The last joint fighting was with what was left of the [Syrian] 85th Brigade whose commander is my brother, Brigadier General Muhammad Halal. We fought during the siege of Beirut, and together defended the Arab nation's honor in that siege. Hence, the attempt to exploit the emotions of the masses by fabricating lies is rejected in part and parcel.

[Darwish] Then there are no differences, Abu 'Ammar?

['Arafat] No. But differences in opinions should not harm the relations.

[Darwish] But the difference of opinions between you, on the one hand, and the dissident groups of Abu Musa, Abu Salih, and other Palestinian groups on the other, are now resulting in grave consequences that may affect the Palestinian movement.

['Arafat] May the Almighty guide my people for they know not. This is not the first time this has happened in the Palestinian march. We are used to this. However, these differences were a bit wild this time because they exploited our departure from Beirut. Our departure from Beirut was like a blow to the Achilles'

heel. They exploited the dispersal of our forces following the departure from Beirut as well as the division in our leadership. They exploited the pains we suffered in Beirut: 72,000 martyred and wounded among the Lebanese and Paelstinians — mostly women and children.

[Darwish] Abu 'Ammar, when you say they exploited...

['Arafat, interrupting] And 300,000 Palestinian refugees as well as 25,000 Lebanese refugees. They exploited these pains to stir up some storms here and there.

[Darwish] Abu 'Ammar, when you say they exploited, whom do you refer to exactly?

['Arafat] Those stirring up the dissidents.

[Darwish] Who is stirring up the dissidents?

['Arafat] Some Arab regimes and organs, particularly some Syrian organs. Mu'ammar [al-Qadhdhafi] himself is actively taking part in the battle. I tell him, take it easy. I see you taking part in this battle while you did not move when we were being besieged. We did not see even one of your planes or rockets taking part in the battle. We were accused of laying down the ammunition that was stored in An-Na'imah [an area near Beirut]. The Palestinian revolution was accused of laying down its arms. Those arms and ammunition belonged to the Green revolution. This is like one who leaves his gun by his side to be used in hard times. Do you know this joke? ['Arafat laughs]

[Darwish] But in your opinion ...

['Arafat, interrupting] If I had known that all these arms had been stored there I would not have left it for them. I would have taken them in the name of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian command in order to fight. Unfortunately, these arms were handed over from the stores of Ahmad Jibril, I believe, or the stores of Salih ad-Duruqi. The stores of Ahmad Jibril and Salih ad-Duruqi.

[Darwish] Then, why do you think, Abu 'Ammar, Libya stands in this manner against Yasir 'Arafat?

['Arafat] He [Al-Qadhdhafi] is not against Yasir 'Arafat only. He is also against the African unity, against the Arab League, against Algeria, against Tunisia, against the Palestinian revolution. We recall all his attempts, before the last PNC meetings, to split it. We recall how much harm was caused to the national movement, to the nationalist forces, and to the Lebanese legitimacy as a result of Mu'ammar's intervention. However, may the Almighty forgive him.

[Darwish] In addition to Libya, you referred to some Syrian intelligence organs. We know — as you have said — that directly before your deportation you met with Rif'at al-Asad, commander of the Syrian Defense Squads. What took place during this meeting, and how was your meeting? What explanation were you given?

['Arafat] In fact, I am astonished by what has happened. I was in Tripoli when a special envoy came to tell me that the brothers in Syria want to meet with me in order to resolve all suspended problems. I left for Damascus with the envoy and met with Brother Rif'at al-Asad. The meeting lasted about 2 and 1/2 hours. We agreed to follow it up the next day or after 2 days. He said that he was commissioned by the brother president to resolve all the suspended problems. However, regrettably, the Damascus-Homs road was closed at night when an attempt was carried out against a convoy of our vehicles. On the second day, I was surprised to learn that Syria had decided to deport me. I regret such a Syrian decision.

[Darwish] How can you explain this matter?

['Arafat] So far, I have not been able to explain it. I am entitled to ask the Syrian people why this has happened. I am entitled to ask the last one of them who met me. I am entitled to ask my brother, Abu Durayd [Rif'at al-Asad], why this has happened.

[Darwish] Have they not given you any answer via the committees: the Saudi-Algerian committee for the six-member mediation committee stemming from the PLO?

['Arafat] Regrettably, I have not. I may have received some answers, but not a convincing reply.

[Darwish] Then you believe that relations have reached a deadlock.

['Arafat] Yes. If they close the door I will go to them through the window. I am in a battle of destiny with them. We are with them in the first forward trench against Israel and against this Zionism that wants to storm the entire Arab region. I have the right to tell them to reconsider their calculations. Nobody denies that they have about 40,000 soldiers — but we also have about 12,000 soldiers and fedayeen. They are standing side by side to fight the battle that was expected and which preoccupied the whole region before Shultz' arrival in the region, and before the red line was opened between the Americans and the Soviets, as well as before Dobrynin's meeting with U.S. officials and Hartman's meeting with Soviet officials. These drums of war beat against us and them.

[Darwish] But you, Abu 'Ammar, want to withdraw forces from Al-Biqa'. Where will the Syrian-Palestinian military presence be?

['Arafat] Who said that I want to withdraw forces from Al-Biqa'? I said that if there is a decision to slaughter these forces, as they were slaughtered in Tall az-Za'tar, and in order to avoid bloodshed and an intra-Palestinian, Syrian-Palestinian, or Libyan-Palestinian fight we will stop fighting and reach an agreement on all disputed issues. I said this to the mediation committees: both the Algerian-Saudi committee and the Palestinian committee. Otherwise, help me stop this fratricide which I do not want and refuse to be dragged into.

If you want Al-Biqa' I will leave it to you. I was forced to leave Beirut, but neither the revolution nor the struggle stopped. If you

want Al-Biqa', take it. I refuse to be dragged into an intra-Palestinian, Palestinian-Arab, Palestinian-Syrian, or Palestinian-Libyan fratricide. If they want to liberate Palestine from Al-Biqa' by themselves let them do so. I am not preventing them.

[Darwish] Afterward, you will leave for Tripoli — that is, the loyal Palestinian forces will go to Tripoli.

['Arafat] There are no loyal and disloyal forces. There are Palestinian forces. It is the same story. Have you forgotten, Nabil, that it is the same cover they used in 1976 to protect the resistance when they brought us Ahmad Jibril. Instead of the late Zuhayr Muhsin they brought us Salah Ma'ruf, and instead of Brigadier General Misbah al-Budayri, they brought us Abu Musa.

They used the same Palestinian cover. This matter has been exposed. The Arab nation, its masses, and officials — including the Syrian people — now know that the issue is not an issue among the Palestinians. It is very well known that the [Syrian] military police protects the dissidents' office on Aleppo street or on Baghdad street. I do not know the exact name of the street. It is also very well known that the military police accompany them, and provide them with the weapons that they confiscate from us. They give them part of the confiscated weapons, along with troops and tanks.

At the beginning of the incidents, the Syrian Army staff gave us an ultimatum that if one shot was fired, then all of the Paletinian forces will be assembled [as heard]. I, however, would like to ask them: What is the meaning of this ultimatum, while the tanks were opening fire and missiles were pouring in? Or is this not part of the ultimatum, because the fire is directed against our bases, the bases of the Palestinian revolution? I appeal to President al-Asad — an appeal from Abu 'Ammar to Hafiz al-Asad — to interfere and end this deterioration and collapse. I appeal to him on behalf of the martyrs, Palestine, and Arabism.

[Darwish] Suppose your request is granted, and to avoid more bloodshed, the forces would leave for Tripoli. What then? What would happen after Tripoli? Would there be a second Palestinian exodus from Lebanon?

['Arafat] I put forth this issue as an attempt to reach a solution.

[Darwish] Let us suppose that an agreement is reached on this?

['Arafat] No. This must be linked closely to what is taking place. Is there really a settlement? Is there a Syrian agreement on a simultaneous Israeli-Syrian withdrawal?

[Darwish, interrupting] But such a question is addressed to you, Abu 'Ammar?

['Arafat] No, this question must not be addressed to me but to the others. I did not meet with Shultz or others. On the contrary, Shultz says that he welcomes the current attempt to control the PLO. Kissinger also advises the Palestinian people to get rid of the PLO and Yasir 'Arafat. At the same time, Arens, Begin, and Shamir are profusely ...

[Darwish, interrupting] But the majority of the dissident leaders are leveling similar accusations against Abu 'Ammar, accusations that he is following the bandwagon of Reagan's plan, negotiating with Jordan and supporting the schemes which are termed as capitulatory schemes or liquidatory schemes.

['Arafat] Be sensible Nabil. If one listens to fools rave, then one is a fool. If these accusations were true, then why, after the suspension of the dialogue between us and Jordan, did Reagan say that the Arabs must retract their recognition of the PLO? Also why had Shultz said that he welcomes the attempt to control the PLO? Why then is there a conspiracy against us at present which seeks to liquidate our bases in Majdal 'Anjar, Ar-Rawdah, and Darzaynun? I have a right to ask why all this is taking place?

I would also like to say something: Why should an intelligence officer judge my actions or have those whom [words indistinct]? No Arab leader has the right to judge my actions. The one who judges my actions are the resolutions of the PNC and the Fatah movement, which are leading the ship inside the PLO and the PNC due to its weight and influence. I will only submit to those. I will also listen to the smallest child of our Palestinian and Arab people. That's why I am implementing these decisions. If some elements here and there are not satisfied with the PNC resolutions, let them go in search of a people other than the Palestinian people, a legitimacy other than the Palestinian legitimacy, and an arena other than the Palestinian arena. No one, irrespective of his standing, can make us deviate from our course, from our democratic oasis, and from the constructive democratic dialogue of which we are proud.

[Darwish] But Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and Qadri [Samih Quwayq]...

['Arafat, interrupting] Here we go back to Abu Salih and Qadri. May God forgive them. I leave them to be judged by our people and history. They have encroached on, violated, and attacked sacred values. They themselves know that such actions can never be acepted in our Palestinian arena and within Fatah.

[Darwish] What I meant was that they are members of the Fatah Central Committee and they say that they want to go back to Fatah's genuine principles that underlined the fomration of the Fatah movement.

['Arafat] They cannot assess ... [sentence not completed as heard] I know, Nabil, you want to pull my leg. I mean, you want to...

[Darwish, interrupting] I am just conveying to you what is being said ...

['Arafat, interrupting] You are saying exactly what is being said by this or that misguided media which try to fabricate things and make sparks from this cause. However, no one — including Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO Executive Committee chairman, the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and the official spokesman — has the right to say that this is my opinion and I want to impose it in the field. What can be imposed in the field is the thing endorsed by the Palestinian legitimacy. We must abide by what has been endorsed by the Palestinian legitimacy in the PNC. Any deviation from this is a deviation from the

independent Palestinian national decisionmaking. I will fight to prevent this from happening.

[Darwish] All these events and military skirmishes are also taking place on the land ...

['Arafat, interrupting] We haven't finished yet. You forgot. You said that we are following the bandwagon of settlements and capitulation. Reagan said that if the Palestinians accept Security Council Resolution 242 or the Reagan plan I will receive their representative in the White House the next day. I tell you Nabil, if you listen to fools rave, then you are a fool. Our masses who are listening are no fools, thank God. I have unlimited confidence in them.

[Darwish] Did Reagan say this to the Arab seven-member committee or to somebody else?

['Arafat] To the Arab seven-member committee. This was leaked to some papers.

[Darwish] Were you officially informed of what Reagan had said, Abu 'Ammar?

['Arafat] Yes, I was officially informed of it. I keep the minutes of the meetings [which confirm this]. I can show them to you.

[Darwish] And you rejected.

['Arafat] Of course, because I am abiding by the PNC resolutions, our Palestinian national program, and what we had agreed upon in Fes; namely the Arab peace plan. As for the issue of the dialogue with Jordan, this is a long story. I wonder whether what has been forbidden for somebody is allowed for others? I am going to tell you [words indistinct] Nabil, so all people can hear me. In 1973, an Arab summit conference was held in Algiers during which the PLO was announced as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. Jordan rejected this at that time. In 1974, King Husayn came and attended the conference and agreed [that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative].

As I remember, and as it had been written in the official minutes of the rabat Arab summit conference, I told him that I am ready to have with Jordan a unity similar to that among Egypt, Syria, Libya, and Sudan; similar to the unity that existed once between Jordan and Iraq; similar to any form of unity present in the Arab region or outside the region; and similar to the relations between Syria and Lebanon after the end of French colonialism. I said this. He said that he agreed that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative. That decision was adopted unanimously.

Then an Arab committee was formed comprising Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and the PLO in order to regulate this Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. The committee held its first meeting in Cairo. Its second meeting was supposed to be held in Damascus. Unfortunately, the Damascus meeting was not held. We saw instead, a Syrian-Jordanian relationship arising, as everybody knows. Under this Syrian-Jordanian relationship, we were hit and our radio station, which was located in Dar'a, was closed.

Then our PNC started a dialogue inside the Palestinian arena regarding relations with Jordan. The PNC finally agreed on the confederation with Jordan during its meeting in Algiers. It agreed on relations between two independent states. We have our own views and our Jordanian brothers have theirs. We respect their views and I hope that they will respect ours.

[Darwish] Then, the differences in viewpoints with Syria go far back.

['Arafat] No ...

[Darwish, interrupting] You say that the Syrian-Jordanian relationship had in one way or another dealt a blow to the Palestinian resistance ...

['Arafat, interrupting] No, I say only one thing: When the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement took place, our radio station was closed down so it would not cause harm to this rapprochement. I am not against the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement. On the contrary, I call for it. I am in favor of any inter-Arab rapprochement. We have had enough fragmentation and divisions in the Arab arena. I wish that the Eastern front would be reformed and that it would include Iraq, Syria, Jordan, and the PLO, because this is the only way out. I wish to see the Arab nation's relations with Egypt go back to what they were during the days of 'Abd an-Nasir. Believe me, believe me, Nabil, if we continue our division our future generations will pay a heavy price. What I fear most is that the current events might be the end. The coming generations would then curse us. Therefore, I say this is enough; enough. I address these words to all our Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf. Let us unite our stands. We met in Fes after the epic of Beirut and let us meet again and discuss our affairs.

[Darwish] Al-Biqa' and Tripoli are Lebanese territory on which clashes are taking place. Where do the Lebanese stand on all this?

['Arafat] That is why I tell those who lost their minds: shame on you. Shame, shame, shame, shame. Is it not enough that these heroic Lebanese people have given us everything generously. These people, Nabil, have given us what no other people have given. Shall we add further agony to its suffering? This is shameful and unjust.

[Darwish] Are there any negotiations and contacts between you and the legitimate Lebanese authority?

['Arafat] A joint committee was formed as a result of my meetings with the Lebanese officials, including President al-Jumayyil, in New Delhi. I expect this joint committee to convene at any moment in order to discuss suspended issues related to our institutions, including the research center, which was closed, as well as the PLO office and other issues. I also have about 500,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

[Darwish] You mean that you want to discuss these topics. Can the Palestinian civilian presence in Lebanon be discussed within the framework of talks concerning the Palestinian military presence in Lebanon?

['Arafat] I hope that Prime Minister al-Wazzan, who is in power now, will be asked about the agreement reached between us. He agreed with us on all social, cultural, scientific, and medical affairs as well as to our citizens' safety, security, and stability. There were differences only on the military topic. I am ready to open a dialogue on all these issues. I appeal to my brothers, the Lebanese officials, to open a quiet fraternal dialogue with us away from the effects of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the dangers this agreement poses to us.

[Darwish] Can a quiet dialogue lead to the Palestinian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon?

['Arafat] I can discuss this very quietly with an open mind and it can be discussed at the appropriate time. I said in an official message that this Palestinian military presence is for the sake of the Lebanese people. It is in the service of the unity of both Lebanon's land and people, and is meant to avoid the disruption or partition of Lebanon. This is a basic point in my mind and heart. From my position I will not allow from near or far any harm to come to this country. However, I hope that my Lebanese brothers will also understand my circumstances.

[Darwish] Allow me, Brother Abu 'Ammar, to return to the topical issue of relations with Syria. There are Syrian hints and there are recriminations by Abu 'Ammar against Syria. There are also, perhaps, Syrian hints for a public apology by you for this. If an apology is the price for the restoration of rapprochement or some sort of a relationship, will Abu 'Ammar be ready to apologize?

['Arafat] Do you accept this for me? I would like to ask our heroic kinfolk in the West Bank what they think of this. This is like beating someone then hurrying to sue him.

[Darwish] But he says that he has not at all beaten you. Have you any proof that he has beaten you, Brother Abu 'Ammar?

['Arafat] Expelling me via Damascus airport in this manner is proof. Is this not a blow dealt to all the Palestinian and Syrian peoples and all the Arab nation? I am the son of this Arab nation. I am fighting for this Arab nation. I am the only Arab military commander whom Israel has not beaten so far. I want to tell you something. I am ready to do everything for the sake of improving relations between my Syrian brothers and I.

[Darwish] The Syrians are saying almost the same thing, but they say that they have nothing to do with the dissidence; that this is not a matter that concerns them and that it is a purely Palestinian issue?

['Arafat] Is your information reliable? Nabil, here is a document. It is a report on the military activities of the As-Sa'iqah forces signed by Salah ad-Din al-Ma'ani — that is, Colonel Salah al-Ma'ani, who is the head of the military department of the As-Sa'iqah forces. The report says that they were the ones that arrested Lieutenant Colonel Nasr Yusuf, commander of the Al-Yarmuk forces, and not Abu Musa's forces as Abu Musa had announced. The report also says that they and their allies advanced to control the noted positions and to purge the pockets of resistance. This took place on 27 June.

On 28 June, Salah ad-Din al-Ma'ani wrote that the Ar-Rawdah area has been purged of all the elements that are conspiring against the cause. He adds that this has been coordinated with the comrades — Nabil, read with me so that you can be a witness — in the [Arab] Deterrent Forces, the General Command, that is Ahmad Jibril, Samir Ghawshah's Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, Abu Nidal's group, Abu Musa's group, and in addition to all of these, the Libyan forces ...

[Darwish, interrupting] With all these groups, however, the number becomes a large one. Do you not fear the presence of a Palestinian alliance?

['Arafat] The matter is not an easy one. They know that without Syria they are worthless. By God, please ask them what weight they would have without the Syrian military police?

[Darwish] They say that the majority of the forces are with them and that everybody supports them. We asked them this question.

['Arafat] By God, if this is so, then they are blessed. I, however, know that these forces are genuine forces. They themselves know the genuineness of these forces. Nabil, you also are aware of the genuineness of these forces, our people also know this, and the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces also know the genuineness of these forces.

[Darwish] Let us suppose that what you fear happens. That is, as you said a short while ago, attaining rock bottom ...

['Arafat, interrupting] When I say reaching rock bottom, I have in mind the Arab situation in general. This means whether as an Arab nation we should exist or not. I am not speaking about a transient state in a specific geographical location. I speak of the future dimensions concerning our Arab nation, its heritage, civilization, existence, and its entity. Do not let me speak about small matters which are peripheral to our strategy in our Arab region.

[Darwish] Abu 'Ammar, what I meant ...

['Arafat, interrupting] Don't belittle strategic issues.

[Darwish] What I specifically meant is to become acquainted with the strategy you intend to carry out. What if the ban on your going to Syria and Al-Biqa' continues? What if the Palestinian forces are present in Tripoli? What type of action and position would you adopt? How would you pursue the march?

['Arafat] Can anyone prevent me from pursuing the march in any location or place? When I left Beirut, they asked Philip Habib who told them: Let him go to the devil. Philip Habib thought that if we were dispersed, we would become merely refugees. As you see, these bases have become revolutionary and military bases and an asset for the Palestinian revolution and our Arab nation. Had I listened to the advice of some and sent these forces to what's his name, they would be now under the hammer.

[Darwish] Sent them where?

['Arafat] To Al-Biqa'?

[Darwish] Then you are satisfied with the current deployment of the Palestinian forces?

['Arafat] At least part of these forces are safe and not under the hammer or domination.

[Darwish] If a proposal is made to you to withdraw all of your forces from Al-Biqa' and have them join the forces which are present in the Arab homeland ...

['Arafat, interrupting] I must say that this is an issue to be discussed between me and the Lebanese officials. At the Fes summit, they tried to wrest a decision from me.

[Darwish] With the Lebanese officials?

['Arafat] Yes, with the Lebanese officials. They tried to wrest a decision from me at the Fes summit, particularly after the decision on a simultaneous Syrian-Israeli withdrawal was made. I told them: I did not enter Lebanon in accordance with a decision from you so that I leave with a decision from you. That's why this issue is an issue between me and the Lebanese.

[Darwish] We have talked about Syria, Lebanon, and the fedayeen action. What about the occupied Arab territories? Will Abu 'Ammar, at a later stage, lead the political struggle for the sake of restoring these territories? And how will he do this?

['Arafat] I am leading all types of struggle. The revolution is not a rifle, not only a political struggle. The revolution is a rifle, a poem, an essay, a scalpel, a needle in the hand of a girl embroidering at midnight, a woman who toils for her children, a peasant in his field, and a worker in his factory. All these constitute a homogenous mixture which represents the Palestinian revolution. This consistency and interaction between the revolutionaries and their popular base create victory and make miracles.

I want to tell my kinfolk who are clinging to their land and who are creating the miracle of steadfastness and confrontation, despite terrorism and oppression, that from you the legitimacy of hope and reality is always accepted [as heard], and from you stems our rejuvenating ability to grab the burning ember. I tell them: It is from you that we derive the concept and the revolution, and it is from you that the concept and revolution get their everlasting fuel.

No world power can extricate a people from its history as the dwarfs are trying to do. It is through you and by you that the holy land with its prophets, martyrs, and sons derives its radiant and brilliant identity. It is through you and by you that the displaced people in prisons, exile, and massacres are united. Let us be united, our people, in one line and within one framework toward one homeland. The enemies, our people, are charting their maps while you are clinging to your earth and building the shrine of hope for us and for everyone searching for heroism, justice, and a homeland.

I want to tell our great people that the power of the revolution, concept, spirit, and land in them is stronger than the history of all the invaders who attacked them, and stronger than the plot of some abroad who want to obliterate the Palestinian legitimacy, plot against the PLO, and form a new PLO. The plan is unfolding in this way.

[Darwish] What plan, Abu 'Ammar?

['Arafat] The plan of establishing a new PLO.

[Darwish] Do you have any information in this regard?

['Arafat] There is a whole plan in this regard. Therefore, I ask them to be alert.

[Darwish] What does this plan say, Abu 'Ammar?

['Arafat] It says that after Al-Biqa' a new PLO will be proclaimed.

[Darwish] By whom?

['Arafat] By this mixture which you can see. Al-Qadhdhafi will give it some money and it will receive some support from this or that side.

[Darwish] How would you act, then?

['Arafat] I want to say one thing: This revolution is gigantic. Gigantic. This is the most noble phenomenon. As [late Egyptian President] 'Abd an-Nasir said, this revolution will remain. Therefore, in the name of our ancestors and grandsons; in the name of the souls of thousands of Palestinian and Lebanese martyrs in the joint Lebanese-Palestinian command, and all our nation's martyrs who fell so that the wound of this great people could be healed; in the name of all defenders of land and freedom; and in the name of the PLO, your sole legitimate representative; I make a pledge to everyone of our people — men and woman, male and female child — that we will march together along the path of one people, which creates the miracle and gives legitimacy. Legitimacy is not given by a leader or a tank, and nobody can rob this people of its revolution. Some think that they can steal the Palestinian revolution with an Arab tank. How foolish they are!

I make a pledge to them that I will follow the road leading to one people and one homeland. In this regard, I would like to cite this great Koranic verse: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Fain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not allow but that His light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may detest.

[Darwish] Thank you, Abu 'Ammar.

'Arafat Addresses Masses on 'Id al-Fitr

GF120810 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] Tunis, 11 Jul (WAKH) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has called on the Palestinian people in the occupied territories to escalate their struggle and resistance of the occupation and adhere to their national unity and revolution under its sole and legitimate representative, the PLO.

In an address to the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr, 'Arafat said: The Palestinian revolution is now facing the question of to be or not to be, at a time when it is intended for the generations' aspirations to be cast into oblivion had it not been for the land's and man's relationship — in you — which gives more strength and determination to fighters to fight, patients to be more patient, and faithful to be more faithful.

'Arafat addressed the Palestinian masses in the occupied territories saying: Through your continued struggle, you are giving the march of Palestinian and Arab people hope, and a good example of a flaming candle which is raised high in this long and dark tunnel and will give more strength to your besieged revolution to enable it to overcome despair, despondency, assassination, and surrender.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman described the current circumstances of the Palestinian revolution as a plot intended to destroy the image of the organization and its institutions, legitimacy, and dignity and all the holy traditions it has achieved through blood, and also the Palestinian people's unity and organization which is the basis of their dignity, rights, and aspirations to reach the highest level of international recognition. 'Arafat added: What is taking place is also aimed at changing the image of the revolution from that of a revolution to liberate its land, people, and nation to that of tribal mitigants. He affirmed that the revolution will not be dragged into this and will never accept it under any circumstances or situations whatsoever.

'Arafat asserted that the Palestinian people, who have suffered the largest share of sacrifices and made such a long march of patience and suffering and have achieved such accomplishments and international recognition, are able to defend their revolutionary invention and political and moral vigor represented in the PLO.

Concluding his address, 'Arafat pledged to the Palestinian masses, in the name of ancestors, grandchildren, and souls of martyrs and those who are defending land and freedom, to continue to proceed on the way of one people to the one homeland.

'Arafat Denies Plans To Visit Moscow Soon

NC120714 Paris AFP in English 0707 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] London, July 12 (AFP) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said in a Tunis interview today that he did not plan to go to Moscow for the moment. Recent reports said that Mr. 'Arafat planned to visit Moscow.

He told the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) that a visit there "is not in my program, at least not at this stage."

Regarding internal difficulties within his Fatah group, the main faction in the PLO, he agreed that they were "a problem", but considered they had been grossly exaggerated by the mass media. "Behind the dissidents stands Syria," he added.

Over Libya's role, he said that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi "is very proud of what he is doing with his forces. Instead of ordering them to move against the occupation of Lebanon, he gave this order against Arab troops — that is the PLO." Reports from Beirut said that Libyan units had moved against pro-'Arafat PLO troops.

PLO's Al-Wazir Criticizes Outside Interference

LD111702 Kuwait KUNA in English 1611 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Lebanon, July 11 (KUNA) — A senior Palestinian commander emphasized Monday that the Palestinian revolution insists on maintaining its national independent decision-making as the basis for correcting relations with Syria. Deputy general commander of the Palestine Revolutionary Forces Khalil al-Wazir added that retaining that right along with "solidarity of the forces confronting the Zionist enemy is an essential condition to solve current inter-Palestinian and Palestinian-Syrian problems."

In an address to the Palestinian combatants and people on the occasion of the Islamic feast, 'Id al-Fitr, Al-Wazir stated that the six-man Palestinian conciliation committee formed by the Palestine Liberation Organization's Executive Committee to open a dialogue with Damascus was confronted with the Syrian idea that the unity of the mainstream commando movement Al-Fatah was of prime importance.

The Palestinian official, better known as Abu Jihad, said "our insistance on independent decision-making as part of our independent national personality, for which we sacrificed thousands of martyrs in confronting Arab attacks, is not a narrow provincialist concept as some imagine." Abu Jihad charged that in the name of reform leader of the Fatah breakaways Col. Sa'id Musa and his followers have committed crimes against the revolution.

The breakaways have killed "heroes" of the Palestinian resistance in the war against the Israeli invasion last summer, Abu Jihad declared and accused Arabs, which he did not name, of attempting to split or contain the Palestinian revolution through flagrant interference in the internal affairs of Fatah and the PLO. A number of Arab officials have disclosed that those who stir up internal Palestinian strife were trying to drive the Palestinian forces out of the confrontation line against Israel in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley, the deputy commander said. He charged that the Lebanese campaign of arrests, deportation, and killing of Palestinians was similar to the Israeli atrocities in the occupied territories.

Qaddumi-Led PLO Delegation Visits Moscow

JN111645 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, arrived in Moscow today at the head of a Palestinian delegation on a visit to the USSR for talks with USSR leaders.

Brother Abu al-Lutf will meet with USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko to discuss the latest developments in the Palestinian arena and the situation in the Arab region.

Talks Previewed

LD111655 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Tunis, July 11 (KUNA) — A Palestine Liberation Organization delegation led by chief diplomat Faruq Qaddumi is expected later Monday to hold talks with Soviet leaders on "dangerous developments in the Palestinian arena," according to the Palestine news agency, WAFA.

WAFA said that the delegation which groups Executive Committee members Mahmud 'Abbas and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh will meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and other Soviet officials.

The PLO-run agency added that the discussion will further focus on the "intensified U.S. assault on the PLO" with the ultimate aim of eliminating the Palestinian organization politically and militarily. WAFA noted that "a number of Arab quarters were responding" to the American scheme but declined to identify them.

Arab Sources Assess Talks

NC111511 Paris AFP in English 1459 GMT 11 Jul 83

[By Patrick Meney]

[Excerpts] Moscow, June 11 (AFP) — The Kremlin was opening direct talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization here today, but Arab diplomatic sources warned of serious difficulties in any attempt to reconcile Syria and the PLO.

Arab diplomats held that this week would be decisive both for Yasir 'Arafat and for the future role of the Soviet Union in the Middle East. If Mr 'Arafat came to Moscow but found himself disavowed — or even found Moscow remaining neutral in the situation — he would have difficulty recovering, given his already shaky position. He could not afford to go home empty-handed from such a trip, and he has no guarantee of public backing from the Kremlin, which sees itself as filling a role of mediator between "Arab brothers."

Meanwhile, with this risky attempt at mediation, the Soviet Union has launched a vast offensive toward the Middle East. If they fail, the Russians will simply have demonstrated they have little influence over their Syrian and Palestinian friends. While the Kremlin remained cautious and discreet, Arab analysts were pessimistic of Soviet chances to reconcile the two sides. According to Arab diplomats, Moscow has no real control over Damascus.

Prime Minister Andrey Gromyko, who is to meet Mr Qaddumi, urged Arab unity on June 16. But in diplomatic circles an agreement in the near future between Damascus and Mr 'Arafat was not seen as likely. And as one Arab ambassador said today: "Under these conditions, what is the good of 'Arafat coming to the Kremlin?" That is probably the very question Mr Qaddumi would be asking the Kremlin leadership. Mr 'Arafat's trip to Moscow depends on the answer.

Pessimism over the likelihood of successful mediation was reinforced over the weekend by a running verbal battle between Syria and the PLO here. The Syrian Embassy and the PLO office had harsh words for each other in communiques circulating among the Arab embassies, diplomatic sources said. A Syrian communique — excerpts of which were obtained by AFP — accused Mr 'Arafat of being "defeatist" and of having "accepted the Camp David peace process...ignoring the blood spilled by Palestinians and Syrians."

PNC Speaker Al-Fahum Leaves for USSR Visit

JN111312 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Excerpt] A reliable Palestinian source has announced that PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum left Damascus for Moscow today for a 3-day visit. This visit comes at a time when a PLO delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, is in Moscow.

TASS Report on DFLP Delegation's Visit

LD111755 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1715 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow, 11 Jul (TASS) — From 4-11 July, a delegation of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), led by the front's secretary general, Nayif Hawatimah, was in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries.

At the meetings and conversations which took place, Soviet and Palestinian representatives decisively condemned Israel's continuing aggression against the Arab peoples, and opposed Washington's attempts to achieve the implementation of the one-sided agreement with Israel, which has been foisted on Lebanon, and which serves the United States hegemonistic, expansionist plans in the Near East.

The sides condemned the political and military pressure on the Syrian Arab Republic. They expressed the general opinion that in the present situation in the Near East the cohesion of all patriotic forces of the Arab countries, and the consolidation of the ranks of the Palestine resistance movement in the name of the defense of the vital national interests of the Arab peoples gain special significance.

On the Soviet side the importance was noted of the efforts which are presently being undertaken to strengthen the unity of the PLO on the basis of the decisions of the 16th Palestine National Council session.

The representatives of the DFLP and of the Soviet public confirmed their resolution to continue the struggle to attain an all-embracing Near East settlement. The sides noted

unaninimously that such a settlement can be ensured only by the collective efforts of all sides, including the PLO, by means of convening an international conference.

Nayif Hwatimah and the members of the delegation gave a high evaluation of the consistent and principled support of the CPSU and of the Soviet state for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of its only legitimate representative, the PLO, for the establishment of a durable and just peace in the Near East. The Palestinian delegation stressed that the peace-loving initiatives of the Soviet Union and its efforts, which are directed toward the prevention of a nuclear war, play an enormous role in strengthening the positions of all forces which come out against the military danger in favor of safeguarding the freedom and sovereign rights of the peoples.

PLO's Qaddumi on Fatah Affairs, Leadership

PM111307 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 9-15 Jul 83 pp 17-18

[Nadim Nasir report: "Abu al-Lutf Tells *Al-Majallah*: The West's Speculation That I Would Succeed 'Arafat Harms Us All"]

[Excerpts] A ranking Palestinian source has told *Al-Majallah*: "The collective leadership and reforms advocated by rebel leader Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa] are not his own ideas. He used them as an excuse for mutiny. Abu Musa is not the only one calling for internal reform within Fatah. Several members of the Fatah leadership want change and reform. We all want reform. There is a need to correct many mistakes, but Abu 'Ammar is not responsible for these mistakes. The dissidents themselves had a lot to do with these mistakes and should therefore be taken to task for that."

We contacted [PLO Political Department chief] Faruq Qaddumi (Abu al-Lutf) in Tunis, where Fatah's Central Committee and Revolutionary Council held extremely important meetings last week. We caught up with him at dawn as he was about to have his pre-fast meal.

Abu al-Lutf confirmed to us that the Central Committee and the Revolutionary Council adopted a number of important decisions related to internal reform in Fatah, and that an ad hoc committee was formed to tackle the present crisis within Fatah. He added: "The reform movement was already decided before the mutiny. It became an urgent necessity after our withdrawal from Beirut and the destruction of our institutions. It was imperative that we reexamine everything. The Revolutionary Council was scheduled to meet in the PDRY on 17 May, but it did not because of the circumstances. We have no doubt that our responsibilities are enormous. In his capacity as PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief, Brother Abu 'Ammar undoubtedly shoulders massive responsibilities. We in Fatah are aware of these responsibilities and are cooperating among ourselves, and the other Palestinian organizations are cooperating with us in tackling these responsibilities.

The pressing crisis, which at present takes priority over reform, pinpointing mistakes, and apportioning responsibilities, is the mutiny in Al-Biqa'. When we spoke of Abu al-Lutf, a 12-hour cease-fire had already been announced. By nature Faruq Qaddumi is an optimistic man even under the worst circumstances, and his optimism is infectious. This time, however, we did not find him very optimistic.

He was a member of the committee formed by the PLO to negotiate with Abu Musa, examine his demands, and end his mutiny. The committee's efforts were not successful. Abu al-Lutf does not see the cease-fire as an indication of a fundamental change in the situation. He said that the agreement was a result of Lebanese and Arab mediations. He added: "We hope that the cease-fire will continue and that our Syrian brothers will cooperate with us in maintaining the cease-fire and in preventing fratricide, particularly since Syrian forces are deployed alongside the fedayeen forces in Al-Biqa'."

Abu al-Lutf also said that Fatah still insists on constructive dialogue with the dissidents with a view to solving the problem within the movement. He believes that this is the sound democratic way to achieve acceptable solutions.

It seems, however, that there are varying views within the Fatah leadership as to how the mutineers should be tackled. A ranking Palestinian source has told us that the meetings of the Central Committee and the Revolutionary Council in Tunis were held to pave the way for a meeting of Fatah's general congress later this summer to pass a firm decision expelling the mutineers from the movement and stripping their activities of any legitimacy. He added: "They should have been expelled from the very beginning."

The more complex the field conditions — which increase the distance between the Fatah leadership and its military bases — the more complex Fatah's position becomes, and the more there is need for far-reaching changes and reform. Whatever the magnitude and nature of these changes — which will only be known after Fatah's general congress meeting — there is virtual consensus that Abu 'Ammar's position should not be harmed, although many want him to apply a different method of collective leadership.

Informed sources expect Faruq Qaddumi to play a more sensitive role in Fatah and PLO affairs as a result of the expected changes in the Fatah collective leadership. Western sources even tap him as the most likely successor to Yasir 'Arafat, placing him before military man Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf]. The sources say that Abu al-Lutf would be more acceptable than other Fatah leaders, at least internationally.

We asked Abu al-Lutf about these speculations. He said: "One must bear one thing in mind: namely that Yasir 'Arafat is the revolution's leader, and we insist on this leadership. Each one of us works within the framework of his duties and responsibilities. The western speculations are harmful to all of us."

'Arafat Forces Placed on Alert in Al-Biqa'
NC120828 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' has reported that 'Arafat's forces have been placed on a state of alert following information about possible military operations against Fatah positions.

In Tripoli, Abu Jihad has announced that Syria has informed the Palestinian mediation committee that any reconciliation with 'Arafat depends on a settlement of the dispute inside Fatah. A Palestinian source in Tripoli was quoted as saying that the Syrian authorities have recently detained the director of 'Arafat's office in Damascus and 66 Fatah supporters following the expulsion of 'Arafat from Syria.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Previews Amir's U.S. Visit

GF090800 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0715 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Manama, 9 Jul (WAKH) — Bahraini Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has stated that the talks Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah will hold with U.S. officials during his visit to the United States beginning 18 July will deal with bilateral relations, the Middle East situation, and the Iraqi-Iranian war.

In a statement published in today's issue of the Bahraini weekly newspaper *Al-Adwa'*, he said the amir's visit to Washington will give Bahrain and its economic position a great push forward since economic issues will receive due attention in the talks and contacts which his highness will hold on the government level and with economic, industrial, and financial groups.

He affirmed that Bahrain's relations with the United States are natural and that the policies of the two countries concur on many international issues and differ on others. "Intensifying contacts and exchanging views on the highest levels will undoubtedly bring views closer on issues which we deem vital and important, particularly those related to Gulf security, the Middle East cause, and the Palestinian question," he said.

In reply to a question on the concurrence of the amir's visit to Washington with the first unified military exercises by the GCC countries, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah said: When we say that Gulf security is the responsibility of its countries, we mean that safeguarding security means defending oneselfagainst any aggression. He asserted in this regard that no foreign force can defend a region more than its own people and that the idea of defending certain people by force is not acceptable.

He pointed out that the GCC has taken great strides in translating the slogan or principle of "Gulf security is the responsibility of its people" into fact. The joint defense exercises the GCC countries will hold this year is a concrete example of this determination and this will, he said.

On the continuation of the Gulf war, the Bahraini foreign affairs minister affirmed that it is one of the serious factors threatening the region's security and stability and that its continuation portends the gravest and most dangerous consequences, not only for the two neighboring countries, but for the all the region's countries and peoples as well.

He noted that during his visit to Washington, the amir will discuss with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz important international issues, foremost being the Middle East question and the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

On the current intra-Fatah conflict, he said that a difference of views and opinions in any institution or political organization is a healthy phenomenon if it falls within the democratic process as an expression of opinion. He said cancelling the consequences of these differences and casting charges against a third or fourth party is to shun the responsibility, which should be borne confidently and sincerely so that the PLO will come out of this new catastrophe stronger and firmer.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah concluded his statement by expressing the hope that the amir's visit to the United States will have a positive effect on bilateral relations and Arab-U.S. relations.

KUWAIT

Amir Addresses Nation on PLO Rift, Gulf War

GF081332 Kuwait As-Siyasah in Arabic 7 Jul 83 p 2

[Speech delivered by Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Al-Jabir As-Sabah to the Kuwaiti people on 6 July 1983 on the occasion of the last 10 days of the month of Ramadan]

[Excerpt] My brothers, the Arab world has witnessed this year grievous events which cause the Palestinian existence — which is the axis of the Middle East question — to face three threats: the Israeli entity and the superpowers that support it, and this is the threat which we should all cooperate to face in order to confront it; Arab conflicts, which consume our material and human resources; and disputes that have reached the heart of the PLO itself.

It hurts us here in Kuwait as it hurts every Arab and Islamic country and every believer in our right to see the cracks of discord creep toward the heart of the Palestinian question. It is hard for us to see it bleed and lose pure and good blood that was vowed by the Palestinians for the liberation of their usurped homeland.

Containing Palestinian and Arab differences is of utmost importance and the time factor is decisive. Every immediate effort to heal the crack is a positive step whose delay benefits none but our enemies.

We must also pursue and help an expected effort to stop the bleeding between Iraq and Iran in the hope that the brothers in both countries will respond to committees — to which we are grateful — that have continued the effort to reinstitute peace in a region that the entire world envies for the resources it has and the projects it accomplishes. But now the world wonders about its wars, which destroy and shatter the signs of life and hope in it.

All this happens while the superpowers hear and watch, and all this passes either through encouragement or total disregard so long as the interests of the superpowers are secured and so long as their direct or indirect hegemony on the developing countries continues according to plan.

Crown Prince Interviewed on Mideast Issues

LD101135 Kuwait KUNA in English 1002 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, July 10 (KUNA) -- His Highness the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah has said

that in the event the Kuwaiti state budget deficit remains "we may reconsider our foreign commitments."

In an interview with the Paris-based Arabic-language magazine *Kul al-Arab, Sheikh Sa'd said that expenditure on major projects* in the country along with Kuwait's Arab and foreign commitments and the drop in Kuwait's oil revenues as a result of the international oil market situation led to the deficit which has been offset from the general reserve.

The crown prince affirmed that the future generation's fund will not be touched in this respect.

In reply to another question, Sheikh Sa'd underlined that Kuwait is keen on maintaining good relations with all countries without exception.

He noted that balanced international relations bolsters the country's independence, national sovereignty and keeps the region aloof from international rivalry.

The weekly magazine asked the crown prince on his opinion toward the American allegation that the Gulf states were in need of American defense umbrella, Sheikh Sa'd stressed that the region's security and stability are the sole concern of its littoral states. He pointed out that the Gulf Cooperation Council member states have covered major strides in coordinating and cooperating in building a defense power.

"Kuwait is prepared to launch an initiative" or contribute to a pan-Arab effort aimed at clearing Arab atmosphere, the crown prince said.

Replying to a question on means of salvaging the Arab nation from is current ordeal, Sheikh Sa'd said that a concerted Arab effort to restore solidarity, unify ranks and mobilize potentials is the solution to confront all challenges confronting the Arab nation.

Sheikh Sa'd affirmed that his country was diversifying its arms supplies and declared that the Kuwaiti Army is equipped with Eastern as well as Western arms.

The main issue which governs our purchase of weapons is our security and national defense requirements, he added.

Kuwait in cooperation with sisterly Gulf countries have launched conciliation efforts and will continue in this trend to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, Sheikh Sa'd said.

The crown prince called for Arab, Islamic and global efforts to end the fighting and restore stability to the Gulf region which is of "vital importance" to the whole world. The premier highlighted that the continuation of the three-year old war poses a serious danger not only to the warring parties but also to the entire Gulf region.

Kuwait is ready to launch or help in bringing about a Gulf summit grouping Iraq and Iran to discuss the Gulf conflict Sheikh Sa'd said and affirmed that if sincere desire prevailed along with good intention then a positive outcome is expected.

The magazine raised the question of the oil slick which is roaming the Gulf and threatens the closure of water desalination plants and power stations and asked whether the old project of supplying Kuwait with water from the Iraqi Shatt al-Arab waterway will be revived in view of current circumstances.

The crown prince said that contacts have been made in the past with Baghdad but that discussion had stopped because of the Iraq-Iranwar.

Measures against any other Arab country should be taken through Arab consensus and within the framework of the Arab League, the premier asserted.

Sheikh Sa'd, who was asked on whether the Arab countries will boycott Lebanon because it signed an agreement with the Jewish state and whether an Arab summit is necessary to set a new national strategy, added that Kuwait welcomes any Arab meeting targeted at unifying Arab lines on condition that adequate preparations were ensured.

The crown prince said that commitment to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) prices and production quotas will maintain the organization's unity and its countries' solidarity.

Non-commitment to the organization's policy, on the other hand, will lead to weakening its unity and greatly damage the interests of oil producing states, the Kuwaiti top official elaborated.

"We do not object to hiring Asian workers by foreign contracting companies which undergo major projects here as long as they abide by the country's laws and respect the Kuwaiti society's traditions," the premier said, adding "those who violate the country's security" will be punished according to the law.

Labor laws stipulate that in the event Kuwaiti and Gulf workers were not available, Arab laborers will be first sought followed by workers from Islamic and friendly countries, the crown prince explained.

The magazine asked the crown prince if the GCC members were thinking of merging into a confederate or federal unity, he replied that exchange of visits among brothers is a natural thing to expand horizons of cooperation on the road to attaining complete integration.

Sheikh Sa'd underscored that the establishment of the Gulf council is a step toward comprehensive Arab unity.

Kul al-Arab asked the crown prince on the Manakh stock market crisis and whether any solution was foreseeable.

Sheikh Sa'd said that the problem which surfaced last autumn will be solved if true cooperation among the dealers was secured along with amicable understanding which is the feature of traditional Kuwaiti society.

The government has exerted efforts to contain the crisis in cooperation with the National Assembly, Sheikh Sa'd said, adding that resolutions have been passed to deal with the problem

and that the government is currently engaged in finalizing the solution taking into consideration various proposals including those of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The magazine asked the crown prince about the significance behind the announcement of the Kuwaiti justice minister that the government has withdrawn its Constitution amendment proposals from the National Assembly.

The prime minister replied that constitutions all over the world like other laws are subject to change every now and then to mend shortcomings discovered during implementation.

That was the aim behind the government draft law on amending the Constitution, the crown prince said and added that his highness the amir's wisdom was behind the government's decision to withdraw the proposals.

The committee which will discuss granting citizenship will take into consideration all those who presented distinguished services to the country and the Arab talents which faithfully contributed to Kuwait's uprise.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Lauds Iraq-Egypt Rapprochement

GF081000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0938 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 8 Jul (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *Ar-Ra'y Al-'Amm today called for Egypt's return to the Arab* line. "Egypt is an Arab country and has not lost its character. It does not require a decision to regain its character," the paper said.

The newspaper said it is time for Egypt to take up its role by filling the vacuum which it left in the Arab ranks, to share with us the difficulties and challenges we are facing, and to participate in resolving minor differences, particularly the threats menacing the Arab homeland from all sides.

Ar-Ra'y Al-'Amm said Iraq's step toward improving relations and enhancing cooperation with Egypt is a good initiative which will have a great effect on Egypt's return to its Arab house. It said the improvement of relations between Baghdad and Cairo and the consolidation of military, political, and economic cooperation between the two countries is a "ray of hope for Egypt's return to its Arab role."

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh on Results of Shultz' Mideast Tour

LD090626 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Commentary by Husayn al-Askari; prepared by Hamzah as-Saqqaf]

[Text] Despite observers' unanimous evaluation that the American secretary of state's recent tour of a number of Middle Eastern countries was a failure, the American secretary was anxious tostress its results in his final statement before ending his visit to Cairo. This statement could lead to optimism. However, it also indicates great reservation toward evaluating the results of this tour, in that the American secretary of state confined its success to a specific aspect: namely, information gathering and the exchange of views. He did not disclose whether these views were identical or different.

Thus, it is safe to say that any evaluation of Shultz' recent tour in the Middle East is premature. And qualifying its success by the American secretary's description of it, regarding information gathering and exchanging views, is nothing but merely a response and a comment on how it ended: namely, a failure to move stances toward positive results that will save the American role in solving the Lebanese crisis. However, considering time and space factors, this tour could be considered as a prelude to a forthcoming tour within the framework of the American role in the region. The American secretary of state may undertake a new mission according to emerging developments and in light of the information and views gathered from this preliminary tour.

The description of the mission of the American secretary of state — and he is the third man in Washington — as being intended to gather information and views is disturbing and not well defined. This mission, which centered on exchanging views and defining stances on the latest developments in the region with the leaders of the countries Shultz visited, could lead to rearranging the cards of the American role after its stumble in implementing the results of the first stage of Shultz' mission, namely, the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Shultz' statements during this tour, after his talks in both Syria and occupied Palestine, in which he expressed the possibility of his return to the region shortly, contain conclusive evidence that the American secretary of state's tour is the prelude to a forthcoming tour. The American secretary's return would mean the resumption of the mission based on the previous results and incorporating what is new in the implementation of the American role. This was expected from Shultz' meeting with the American President yesterday on the results of his Middle Eastern tour.

Because the White House will openly acknowledge Lebanese legitimacy during Lebanese President Amin Jumayyil's visit to Washington in July, a fast definition of views, deductions, and stances might be urgently necessary in light of developments and events in the region. The mission might not be assured of success, but the first man in the American State Department, with all his competence in adopting and directing stances, was chosen for it.

Within the framework of this analysis of Shultz' recent mission to the Middle East, the tour might be properly evaluated to prepare for the forthcoming American-Lebanese talks so as to include all other stances and clarify the American stance toward them. The purpose is to get the American role in the region out of the maze of failure and hesitation in making the proper decision.

Communique on 10-11 July War Operations

JN111628 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,149 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 11 July 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our heroic Armed Forces, while sharing with our great people their rejoice over the blessed 'Id al-Fitr, are continuing their valiant activities against the forces of the rancorous Iranian regime. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Yesterday, a force belonging to our units clashed with enemy troops opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing 16 and wounding others.

2. Our forward units opened fire on the enemy positions and concentrations opposite our positions east of Basra, killing six and wounding others.

3. Our forward units opened artillery fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing two, and destroying one infantry position and one excavator whose driver was killed. New groups of Iranians, fleeing the hell of Khomeyni and the oppression of his criminal clique, sought refuge with our forward units in another part of the same sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

4. One vehicle loaded with hardware and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. This afternoon the vile Khomeyniite clique shelled Mandali and its suburbs with artillery, causing damage to several civilian establishments and setting fire to some orchards.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 July 1983

Baghdad Azeri Criticizes Khomeyni Forces

Regime Called 'Savage'

GF111100 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 5 Jul 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, it became known during the first few days of his services as an Imam that Khomeyni was a racist and a plunderer. He never attached any importance to the (?interests of the Iranian peoples). Together with his savage regime, he has moved against Iran's defensive and other progressive organizations and removed numerous innocent forces — imprisoning, in the meantime, tens of thousands of Iranians.

Mullah Khomeyni and the members of the pro-Khomeyni school believed that through such crimes they will be able to rid their regime of the serious crisis it faces. They were wrong because freedom-loving and democratic organizations throughout the world and international forces have moved to cooperate with each other with a view to ridding the Iranian peoples of the serious political disaster they have been suffering from. In fact, they have upheld the Iranian peoples' struggle against the giant of oppression and deemed extending fraternal aid to them as a most humanitarian obligation. As for the national and anti-regime forces within Iran, they are informing the world people of the bloody incidents taking place in that country, thus exposing and rendering ineffective the crimes committed by the Khomeyni regime.

History demands that the Khomeyni oppression be crushed. The realization of this, however, requires a stronger support for the Iranian peoples' just struggle. It is the duty of all freedom-loving people to demonstrate that the bloody struggle they have been waging against Khomeyni is aimed at achieving freedom and national and economic (?independence).

School of Mullahs Decried

GF111102 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the school of mullahs in Iran, which has been ruling that country through bloodshed and which has been looking at Iranian people with anger and hatred, is indicative of the true identity of the architects who have laid the foundations of that school. The confused mullahs have launched a campaign of executions for the sake of maintaining their existence. The pro-Khomeyni group, particularly the Khamene'i and the Rafsanjani brothers, including the (?mullahs) in Tehran and Qom, have been approving of the crimes committed by Khomeyni by describing them as (?sacred). They are shamelessly claiming that this is divinity, this is Islam.

The truth is that the Islam Khomeyni has brought upon Iran and Iranians is quite different from the actual religion of Islam as preached by the Prophet. This school of mullahs believe that those who oppose the Khomeyni regime must be executed regardless of whether they are children or pregnant women. There is no other way for them. Khomeyni kills and sets fire to Iran. For the sake of Islam, Khomeyni deals hard blows on the pure religion of Islam through fraud. He shamelessly argues that he wants to see Islam dominating the world — in fact he says that he wishes to spread Islam to [word indistinct] countries.

The campaign of executions launched on the basis of the shameless orders of the (?confused) clique proves once again that Khomeyni and his criminal band do not wish to account to the heroic Iranian peoples. In fact, they are even ignorant of the inexhaustible strength of the brave peoples of Iran.

Realities are coming to light in Iran today. The following slogans are resounding throughout that country: "Death to Khomeyni"; "Death to the executioner." Irrespective of all this, however, the mullahs continue to claim that the Muslims of the world support them and give them the help they need. In fact, the mullahs say: We have to rid the whole world of blasphemy.

There is a limit to evil and diabolical mentality. Iran is being destroyed. The rich peoples of Iran are becoming poor through [words indistinct]. And, due to the reactionary mullahs, there is nothing left to be found in Iran in terms of foodstuffs, save bread alone. Everywhere is stained with blood and nothing else but blood. The [words indistinct] sit and do nothing but chant "God is great."

Everything is gradually being lost in Iran, thanks to the reactionary mullahs' regime. The only thing that is increasing is the number of dead and the number of cemeteries. However, irrespective of all the suffocation and confusion, the Iranian people continue to further the bloodstained banner of their revolution regardless of its weight. Undoubtedly, a day will come when the bearers of this glorious banner will mark the victory of their struggle. This day will undoubtedly come because it is strongly demanded by history.

Youth Minister Holds Discussions in Moscow

JN111711 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow, 11 Jul (INA) — Iraqi Youth Minister Ahmad Husayn met here today with USSR Education Minister Mikhail Prokofyev. They discussed means of further promoting Iraqi-Soviet relations on all levels. The two ministers reviewed developments in the Arab arena, the Iraq-Iran war, as well as current international issues of common interest.

Syrian Defense Minister Visits Al-Biqa' 11 July
NC111943 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas arrived in Al-Biqa' today on an inspection tour of the Syrian forces. He had lunch at the Ba'th Party center in I'at.

VOL Reports Two Israeli Soldiers Killed in South
NC111728 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Two Israeli soldiers were killed and seven others wounded when an Israeli patrol was ambushed on the main road leading to Rashayya al-Wadi in the Al-Hasbani area in southern Lebanon at 1630 today.

'National Resistance' Attacks Israelis
NC111839 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance today carried out a daring operation in the Al-Hasbani area, where an explosive device went off while an Israeli enemy patrol was passing. According to initial information, at least two Israeli soldiers were killed and seven others wounded.

National Resistance fighters had carried out two operations against the occupation forces in the An-Nabatiyah area in the past 24 hours. A Lebanese National Resistance group attacked an enemy convoy at noon today, about 5 km south of An-Nabatiyah, with rockets and automatic weapons, killing and wounding several enemy soldiers. The occupation forces immediately sealed off the area, and helicopters evacuated the casualties. An Israeli military spokesman admitted the operation, saying an explosive device went off as the convoy was passing in the area. The spokesman also said two civilian cars were destroyed, and claimed that there were no casualties among the enemy soldiers.

National Resistance fighters yesterday attacked an enemy patrol on an An-Nabatiyah street with automatic weapons, handgrenades, and rockets, hitting one enemy tank and killing and wounding a number of Zionist soldiers. The occupation forces sealed off the area and searched for the perpetrators. Helicopters were seen evacuating the casualties from the scene.

IDF Incident 12 July
NC120943 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] A precarious state prevails in the mountain areas where sporadic bursts of fire are heard. The 'Arayya-Shwit-Dahr al-Wahsh road is still cut and so is the Beirut-Damascus highway.

In the south, reports from Tyre indicate that at about 0700 today an explosive device went off while an Israeli patrol passed south of the Al-Qasimiyah bridge north of the (Qahmus) intersection. The Israeli forces immediately cut the main coastal highway and began combing the area in search of the culprits. Consequently there was a traffic congestion, but drivers took the Burj Rahhal road to reach Tyre. The reports did not indicate the number of Israeli casualties.

Our correspondent also reports that a large concentration of Israeli vehicles was seen in the Ad-Damur area this morning.

Security sources indicate that a demonstration was staged this morning by Burj ash-Shamali citizens who cut the road between Tyre and An-Naqurah and demanded the release of detainees in Ansar camp. An Israeli patrol dispersed the demonstrators.

Beirut Reports Security Situation 11 July
NC111032 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Four shells fell this morning on the Kasrawan coast but no damage was caused. Fire broke out in Duhur Ash-Shuwayfat forest where fire brigades in cooperation with the citizens are trying to contain it.

The cease-fire is holding in the mountain following last night's artillery exchanges in some areas.

Meanwhile a security source has indicated that the Al-Biqa' roads are passable with caution and so are the Dahr al-Baydar-Hammanah, Tarshish-Duhur Ash-Shuwayr, and Shtawrah-Al-Masna' roads.

At 0920 today an Israeli convoy including 17 tanks passed through from Al-Jumhur to Galerie Sim'an.

Tripoli Incident
NC111419 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] A security source reported a short while ago that calm is prevailing in most Lebanese areas and no significant incidents have been reported.

We have just received the following: In Tripoli, an unknown person this morning opened fire at a vehicle carrying Ghassan 'Abd al-Hamid al-Baba and 'Azzam as-Sankari. The former was killed immediately.

A security source has reported that the 'Alayh road is cut at Dahr al-Wahsh locality.

Shelling Along Coastal Highway
NC111841 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The random shelling of the Al-Matn and Kasrawan coasts this evening killed three people and wounded several others.

The clashes that broke out at 1730 today on the 'Aytat-Suq al-Gharb axis have ceased. In another development, a security source has reported that an explosion aimed at an Israeli truck on the Al-Hasbani River area in the south killed two Israeli soldiers and wounded seven others.

MENA Reports on Lebanese Army Deployment

NC111414 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Beirut, 11 Jul (MENA) — Informed Lebanese sources have pointed out that the Lebanese officials are currently focusing their attention on the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the areas of Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh in Jabal Lubnan now that the Lebanese authorities have received information about an imminent Israeli withdrawal from some of these areas.

The sources also pointed out that handing over by the Israelis of the Monte Verde position, northeast of Beirut, 2 days ago was tantamount to a test for further Israeli withdrawal from other areas in the same way — without much propaganda and through prior coordination among the military authorities concerned.

The sources added that it is possible that the Israelis will carry out independent withdrawals, especially from the Beirut-Damascus Highway, despite the fact that no date has been set for any future Israeli withdrawal.

The sources said that Lebanese Army units have been put in a state of alert to fill any security vacuum that might occur as a result of fresh Israeli withdrawals. Suitable measures have also been taken to deploy the Lebanese Army in these areas at the right time to avert any serious reactions.

The sources said that the Lebanese authorities are making real endeavors with the various parties to have the Lebanese Army deploy in Jabal Lubnan. These endeavors are concentrated on Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, whose militias control large parts of 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf.

Last week Junblatt announced his rejection of the Army's deployment in Jabel Lubnan unless a political agreement is reached among the parties, and threatened to resist the Army if his request was not met.

The sources linked the question of putting Army units in a state of alert with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim's summoning of the ambassadors of the states participating in the multinational force 2 days ago to consult with them on this matter. The sources pointed out that Salim held a meeting behind the scenes yesterday with a number of Lebanese Army officials and discussed this subject with them.

A former minister has conveyed to the Lebanese officials Junblatt's request and the clarifications he seeks to facilitate the Army's deployment. These requests have been shrouded in strict secrecy.

Junblatt Warns Against Israeli Redeployment

NC111604 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, has stated that the only means to a strong and independent Lebanon is national accord and the establishment of a just authority that does not discriminate between one citizen and another.

Junblatt said this in an interview to the newspaper *Journal Times* which is published in Amman. He warned against the consequences of a redeployment of the Israeli occupation forces and their withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf mountain and said that this will mean partition.

France Reportedly Denies It Will Enlarge Force

NC120518 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] France has denied reports that the French Government has agreed to send 3,000 additional soldiers to Lebanon to reinforce the multinational force and fill the security vacuum if an Israeli partial withdrawal takes place from the outskirts of Beirut and from the mountain.

2 Soldiers Killed, 16 Injured in Lebanon

TA120518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] Two IDF soldiers were killed in Lebanon yesterday afternoon, and 16 other were injured — most not seriously — from an explosion along the road they were traveling. This was announced by the IDF spokesman. The dead soldiers' families have been notified. The bomb exploded west of Hasbayya, as a truck in which the soldiers were riding passed by.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the truck was driving reserve soldiers to the eastern sector at the end of their holiday. The bomb weighed about 70 kg. The truck flew 20 meters, turned over, and went up in flames. All the passengers were hurt. IDF vehicles as well as cars belonging to local residents evacuated the wounded to Marj 'Uyun, Metulla, and Qiryat Shemona. Three helicopters removed the wounded to the Rambam and Tel Hashomer hospitals.

Immediately after the explosion, the IDF and Haddad's men cordoned off the area and imposed a curfew. Three km away from the explosion site a landmine as well as a brick-shaped bomb were discovered, but they were safely defused. Our correspondent pointed out that another terrorist attack — in which an IDF soldier was killed and 16 others wounded — happened at the same junction some 2 months ago.

Shamir on IDF Redeployment, German Tank Sale

TA111414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said today that there has not been any demand or request by the United States or Lebanon that Israel not redeploy its forces in Lebanon. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that the foreign minister made this statement in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in response to a question by MK Hayim Bar-Lev. He added that although here and there we hear reservations, comments, and thoughts, we have not received any official appeals on this matter. Shamir stressed that Israel would make the decision about the IDF's redeployment in Lebanon according to its own interests, and he noted that it would be better to do so through a dialogue with the United States and Lebanon. He said, however, if there is no agreement, we will do so according to our own considerations.

On the sale of German Leopard tanks to Saudi Arabia, the foreign minister said Israel would not compromise on the matter of arms deals between Germany and states hostile to Israel. He said that Israel is totally opposed to such a deal, and that there is no room for compromises.

Shamir said no comparisons can be made between world arms deals and the sale of German arms to the Arab states that want our destruction, just as no comparisons can be made between the Holocaust and other acts done throughout the world.

Comments on Lebanon Agreement

TA111444 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The foreign minister said that even though the history of the Middle East is full of unfulfilled agreements, Israel thinks that the agreement with Lebanon will be implemented. Minister Shamir said this in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in answer to a statement of MK Yosi Sarid that President al-Jumayyil is trying to cancel the agreement.

Our correspondent reports that Minister Shamir said that we are happy we signed the agreement even though it has not been implemented yet, because words carry great weight in our relations with neighboring countries. It is important that in Lebanon there would be an element that does not want to turn the country into a base of attacks against us. Israel has an interest in President al-Jumayyil being stronger than his predecessors and Lebanon being independent, Shamir said. He also reported that there was no official U.S. or Lebanese demand that Israel not redeploy in Lebanon.

Exchange of 214 Syrians for POW's Offered

TA120732 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 12 Jul 83 p 2

[Report by the Knesset correspondent]

[Text] Israel is willing to exchange 214 Syrian prisoners for 2 Israeli prisoners and 5 soldiers missing in action, but the Syrian Government does not want to discuss this issue at all, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar told the families of the missing soldiers in a meeting yesterday.

The meeting was very emotional. The parents urged more intensive handling of their case. They expressed anger at the fact that the handling of the issue of the missing soldiers was transferred from the chief of the IDF's Manpower Branch to attorney Shmu'el Tamir. According to them, the very fact that the issue is passed from one hand to another causes a delay. They accused the authorities of not giving this subject top priority.

The chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee promised the families to keep in constant contact with them and to press for continuous handling of the subject. He noted that action has been taken through various channels, but this has not yet brought any Syrian response.

IDF Seeking Additional Funds for Lebanon Stay

TA101031 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 10 Jul 83 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] The defense system is demanding 15 to 16 billion shekels from the Finance Ministry in addition to its 1983 budget because of the stay in Lebanon.

Lately, an argument has broken out between the heads of the Finance Ministry and the heads of the defense system on the extent of this sum. The defense system people claim that the basic assumption in the 1983 budget was that the IDF would withdraw from Lebanon by the end of March this year. Therefore, the continued IDF stay in Lebanon was not taken into consideration in the original budget. Since this forecast did not come about, resources intended for other missions were funneled into financing the IDF stay in Lebanon.

The IDF and the defense system therefore demand that the Finance Ministry finance this stay, so that the missions defined in the budget are carried out.

The Finance Ministry agrees in principle to the demand for additional money; however, the argument is over the sum.

Reportedly Strengthening Infantry

TA120714 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 12 Jul 83 p 3

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv — The Israel Defence Forces are strengthening the infantry following lessons drawn from the war in Lebanon. Several Nahal battalions here have been merged into a brigade giving its men a higher level of training and new recruits are being trained for another infantry brigade — Giv'ati. Giv'ati, a regular infantry brigade in the first years of the state, later became a reserve brigade.

Infantry units will continue to have armoured troop carriers and other tank corps elements, but training will be amended as a result of lessons of the war. The infantry will walk more and ride less. Military sources explained that the Lebanese terrain has areas impassable to vehicles, neccessitating the use of infantry. Moreover, infantry units equipped with anti-tank weapons were very important in modern battlefields, the commander of the Golani Brigade said in a recent interview.

Haddad on Terrorist Attacks in South Lebanon

TA121006 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0953 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] Militia commander Major Sa'd Haddad has said that most of the terrorist attacks in southern Lebanon are perpetrated by local inhabitants who are paid by the terrorist organizations to act against the IDF. If the roads connecting southern Lebanon to the areas controlled by the Syrians are not closed, Haddad explained, the IDF will sustain further casualties, as will the militia.

Speaking to our correspondent in the north, Manahem Horowitz, at his home in Marj 'Uyun, Haddad urged the IDF to withdraw from the Ash-Shuf mountains to the Al-'Awwali River, and as the second stage to allow his soldiers to control all of southern Lebanon. In that case, the militia commander said, Israel will be able to withdraw from Lebanon without fear, and we will carry out our duties.

Shim'on Peres Discusses on West Bank Policy

TA112022 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres by Menashe Raz; 11 July, place not given — videotaped]

[Text] [Peres] Of course that murder [of a yeshiva student in Hebron] was one of the most abhorrent events that has occurred in the Hebron area, but that is not the answer. The answer really is that the government should be responsible for law and they must refrain from doing what they are doing. The choice we are faced with in Hebron has always been the same: either a Jewish town inside an Arab town, or a Jewish town beside an Arab town, as has been done, for example, in Upper Nazareth. In my view, a settlement beside another one is preferable to a settlement within a settlement, with all the rifts and dangers this involves.

[Raz] But, nevertheless, there is a very sharp emotional involvement here, our involvement, inside Hebron town. Why should we not be able to settle inside the town?

[Peres] I will tell you frankly. If we try to reconstruct the past, we will find ourselves in complications on all sides, the length and breadth of Israel. We have the rights of the past, which we do not have to give up, but it is impossible to begin everything as though nothing had happened in the middle. We must build another future, a new future, which will permit the Arabs to live honorably, us to live honorably and both of us together to exist as honest neighbors, without violence.

[Raz] How do you regard the reaction that came as a result of the murder, following which the Hebron municipality and Mayor An-Natshah were dismissed?

[Peres] I am not happy about it. I think it is a mistake. I have been responsible for the territories. In the territories, two rules must be kept scrupulously and firmly. When there is a murder, to capture the murderers, put them on trial, treat them with the full gravity of the law, whether they are Jews or Arabs. Of course, the murder of Gross was terrible, but the pogrom [last word in English] was also terrible and superfluous. And the second rule is, to let the Arabs conduct their own affairs to a maximum degree. It is not us who ought to be mayors of towns that are primarily or even entirely inhabited by Arabs but the Arabs themselves. For many years we proved that Arab mayors can conduct matters in quite pragmatic and convenient coordination with our military government.

[Raz] What emerges from your remarks is that you are opposed to deepening settlement inside the town of Hebron. It emerges from your remarks that you are opposed to the dismissal of the Hebron Mayor. How, nevertheless, can we react to the murder you describe as abhorrent?

[Peres] The murderers must be captured and only the murderers should be punished. I am against collective punishment. I am against indirect punishment. There is no need. You can declare a curfew when the entire town riots, but in this case, I would put all the emphasis on capturing the murders of Gross — may he rest in peace — on punishing all the people who caused the

expansion of the rioting. By making a more comprehensive punishment, a more indirect punishment, you do not obtain the objective.

Allegations on U.S. Financial Aid Denied

TA100624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Speaking with our correspondent Razi Barqay, sources in the Israeli Embassy in Washington denied reports that Israel has been misleading the United States through its requests for financial aid. This comes in the wake of the publication of secret portions of a U.S. general accounting office document by the renowned U.S. columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novack, in their Friday column.

The document states that Israel succeeded in manipulating U.S. presidents for many years in order to get its wishes. Israel frequently misled them, and did not always use the aid funds for their original purposes. According to the document, this will result in spiralling U.S. aid to Israel which will become uncontrollable, and which will place a heavy burden on the U.S. taxpayer. As stated, sources in the Israeli Embassy have denied these allegations.

Knesset Committee Wants U.S. Report on Debts

TA111748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The Knesset Public Audit Committee has asked the state comptroller to obtain the U.S. Administration's control report about Israel's foreign debts. The committee today discussed Israel's debts and our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that its members feel that they are not receiving all the information on this issue. MK Dan Tikhon of the Likud said that the Treasury refrains from divulging all the details for fear that they may be made public and he suggested that the committee hold a confidential debate on this matter.

To Hold 'Closed' Debate

TA112010 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The Knesset Public Audit Committee is to hold a closed debate on Israel's foreign debt situation. The finance minister and the heads of his ministry will be invited to that debate.

Our correspondent on economic affairs Hayim Platner reports that in today's discussion the committee members were not given detailed information on this matter and so it was decided to hold a closed debate, from fear that the leakage of information about Israel's foreign debts could harm future requests for credit.

Briefs

January-June Exports Statistics — Exports of goods were down 6 percent for the January-June period this year from what they were in the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday. The announcement said $2,421 million worth of goods were exported in the first half of 1983, slightly less than the $2,577m. exported in the first half of 1982. The drop in exports over the period was somewhat moderated by a 5 percent rise in June. Exports last month totalled $385 million, compared to $366m. in June 1982. [Excerpt] [Jerusalem *The Jerusalem Post* in English 8 Jul 83 p 2 TA]

Soviet Jewish Emigration — The number of Soviet Jewish emigrants continues to decline: Only 102 Jews left the Soviet Union last month, one of the lowest figures recorded in 1983. During the first half of the year 639 Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union, compared to over 3 times that number during the same period a year ago. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Jul 83 TA]

ALGERIA

Ibrahim Meets With Polisario's Ould Salek

PM110944 Algiers El Moudjahid in French 19 Jun 83 p 12

[APS report: "Dr Taleb Ibrahimi Receives Mr Ould Salek"]

[Text] Algiers — Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and foreign minister, has had a meeting at his ministry with Mr Mohamed Ould Salek, member of the Polisario Politburo and Polisario chief of foreign relations.

LIBYA

Comment, Reportage on Developments in Chad

Warning to France

LD112019 Tripoli JANA in English 1820 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Paris, Shawwal 1, July 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau here affirmed that the despatch of French forces to Chad will be considered equivalent to a military action against the Jamahiriyah which gives the right to intervene.

He added at an interview with the French newspaper *"La Croix"* today that France is not alone in Chad "but the U.S., the Zionist entity, the regimes of Egypt, Sudan and Zaire all helping and interfering by sending forces, technicians, experts and aircraft of various description to help rebel Habre. The intervention by these foreign countries constitute a direct threat to the security and stability of the Jamahiriyah. However, the Jamahiriyah is concerned that its relations with France should remain normal". The secretary pointed out the geographical, linguistic and historical link between the Libyan Arab and Chadian people which make the stability and security of the two countries to be interlinked. He wondered why the Jamahiriyah cannot have the right to safeguard its border. He said "this of course rules out the possibility of the presence of a political regime in Chad which is opposed to the Jamahiriyah and uses Chad territory as a base from where to launch direct operations against it".

Further on Warning

NC111709 Paris AFP in English 1659 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Paris, July 11 (AFP) — The despatch of French troops to Chad would be considered in Tripoli as "an act of war against Libya", giving it the right to intervene in its turn, Said (Hafiana,) the Libyan ambassador to France, warned in an interview published here today.

Mr (Hafiana) told the daily *La Croix* that France, the United States, Israel, Egypt, Sudan and Zaire were helping the Ndjamena government of Hissein Habre against his ousted Libyan-backed predecessor Goukouni Oueddei.

This aid, including troops, technicians, experts and aircraft of all types, was "a direct threat to the security and stability of Libya, which borders Chad to the north," Mr (Hafiana) said, adding: "We are therefore in a position of legitiamte self-defence."

Mr (Hafiana) said that French aid to Mr Habre had escalated. "Our neutrality has its limits, and it goes without saying that we will reconsider our position," he added.

But the ambassador said a direct confrontation with France in Chad or elsewhere was to be avoided, and that Tripoli wanted to see relations at a normal level.

Mr (Hafiana) said Libya opposed France's military presence in Africa, but not its special interests and relations with the continent. At the same time, he said, Libya did not agree to France contesting "geopolitical reality."

The Chadian and Libyan people "have linked for a long time by geography, language and civilisation," the amabssador said. "This is why we will always consider that the stability and security of Chad are linked to our stability and security."

"Why should Libya not have the right to guarantee the security of its borders?" Mr (Hafiana) demanded.

This right ruled out the presence in Chad of a political regime hostile to Libya, which would use Chad as a base for "direct action" against Tripoli, he said.

Meanwhile Abderahman Moussa, Chadian Ambassador in Paris when Mr Goukouni was in power, said Mr Goukouni's Transitional Government of National Union had "no problems with France."

Mr Moussa said on television here today that France "is obliged to make symbolic gestures. What it has supplied to Hissein Habre cannot save him."

French, Egyptian Involvement

LD091011 Tripoli JANA in English 0910 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, Ramadan 29, July 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The spokesman for the Egyptian Foreign Ministry yesterday evening said that the Egyptian regime and France agreed on increasing military aid to the forces of renegade Hissein Habre.

The spokesman said the agreement came during a meeting between French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and the president of the Egyptian regime, Husni Mubarak yesterday evening in Cairo.

The political editor of the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY commented on ths agreement by saying:

"Political circles are now certain that the French Government is determined to escalate the internal struggle in Chad and work for the internationalisation of this struggle from a regionalist vantage point that responds to colonialist designs and which reactionary hireling regimes had been recruited to realise.

False French allegations against Libya have pointed to the Mitterrand government's desire to explode the situation in Chad. Such methods can only be met with regret by world public opinion, and even angry condemnation.

The French Government has started to succumb to the pressure of its allies and other agents working under the American umbrella. The regrettable thing here is that the process of succumbing to this pressure is now being responded to by practical steps being taken by France in the form of military equipment and advisors that have started suspect military activities in Ndjamena.

Moreover, the dispatch of a Zairean paratroop batallion and the involvement of the Ivory Coast, Egypt and Sudan are not to be seen in isolation of the French desire to intervene militarily in Chad.

The French Government wants to enlarge the sphere of its military intervention by carrying out diplomatic contacts with several adventurous parties known for their extreme hostility to Libya and the Chadian people and their humiliating compliance to colonialist and imperialist circles. In this respect, the Mitterrand government has directed itself towards the Egyptian regime that lost its independent role during As-Sadat's term of office and also during the term of office of Husni Mubarak, who is attempting to reappear through current contradictions, on the Arab scene once again.

It is through this perspective that one must see the visit of French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson to Egypt and his meeting with Husni Mubarak together with the results of the meeting, with France and Egypt agreeing on stepping up military aid to Hissein Habre.

If this is the context of the declared agreement, then we wonder what the secret agreement arrived at between both parties, is. No doubt such a secret accord must have expressed the intention of sending Egyptian troops to Chad to fight alongside the clique of renegade Habre in Ndjamena.

It would come as no surprise if the French Government would have stealthily moved in this direction, flagrantly exploiting Husni Mubarak's hostile stances towards the Jamahiriyah's people and the great Al Fateh revolution. Naturally, widening the scope of this involvement to such an extent warns of the explosion of the situation. This is a responsibility to be borne by the French Government and the Husni Mubarak regime.

It has now become certain beyond any reasonable doubt following Hissene Habre's refusal of the O.A.U. decision to send a committee to Chad to find out whether there is any Libyan intervention there that there is no such intervention and that the only intervention vouchsafed by the O.A.U. is the Zairean military intervention, together with the intervention of the French Government and the encouragement of its allies to become its tools for military intervention in favour of Hissein Habre.

Therefore, we believe that current contacts and moves are designed to dangerously escalate the situation in Chad. This is a colonialist-imperialist conspiracy to internationalise the struggle in Chad, something that is considered a flagrant violation of international law and a challenge to the charter of the Organisation of African Unity which is being conspired against by member countries known for their complicity and subservience to other powers."

GUNT's Nour on Abeche

LD111343 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Addis Ababa 11 Jul (JANA) — Brother Mahamat Nour, Chad foreign minister [of the Transitional National Union Government, GUNT], refuted the news echoed by the Western information media today that mutineer Habre recovered the city of Abeche situated in northeast Chad which had fallen in the hands of the Chadian National Liberation Army.

In an interview with a JANA correspondent last night in Addis Ababa, the minister said that what was echoed by the Western information media was merely untrue propaganda and false claims and that Abeche city is still under the GUNT's control.

Brother Mahamat Nour added that the aim of these claims, made by the mutineer and echoed by the hostile information media, is to stir confusion, chaos, and unrest in Chad, stressing that there is now direct intervention in the internal affairs of the Chadian people by France, Gabon, Zaire, the Egyptian regime and its lackey in Khartoum, and the Ivory Coast and that there are forces from those regimes concentrated in the capital, Ndjamena, fighting alongside the mutineer Habre in an attempt to stop the march of the Chadian National Liberation Army, which is advancing toward the capital Ndjamena following the crushing victories it achieved against the forces of the mutineer Habre over the past 2 days.

The minister added that the campaign of lies and fabrications propagated and boasted of by the mutineer Habre in coordination with Western imperialist circles and their agents in the region that Abeche was recovered is merely a new justification for further foreign intervention in Chad to fight alongside the mutineer Habre, and to win over the sympathy of the imperialist forces to interfere in the internal affairs of the Chadian people.

Brother Nour affirmed that the National Liberation Army of the GUNT headed by Goukouni Oueddei is continuous in its march toward Ndjamena and its advance for the sake of liberating the Chadian territories, to rid the Chadian people of the hegemony of Habre and his mutinous band, to set up the popular authority, to realize freedom, security and peace in Chad, to eliminate the dictator Habre and his agents in the region, and to hand over the popular authority to the Chadian people.

Goukouni Forces 'Continuing Advance'

LD111617 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1547 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 11 Jul (JANA) — The various reports coming from the Chadian capital confirm that the Chadian National Liberation Army has within a short period of time consolidated its control of many strategic positions in Chad, including the town of Abeche, which is considered as a strategic point on the road

leading to Ndjamena. The reports also confirm that the National Liberation Army is continuing its advance towards other strategic points on the Abeche-Ndjamena road.

These reports indicate that the rebel Habre forces, supported militarily by France and some reactionary African regimes, have not been able to ward off the attacks launched by the Chadian National Liberation Army and prevent it from advancing towards the capital.

Significance of Fall of Abeche

LD101458 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Jul 83

["A Topic in the News" commentary]

[Text] The reports and analyses carried by news agencies and observers on Chad are in agreement to a large degree about the features of the coming days and in whose interest the struggle there will end. This is undoubtedly due to the victory scored by the forces of national unity yesterday in seizing Abeche, the main gateway to the capital Ndjamena. This victory came only 3 weeks after the start of actual military operations in the southeast, north, and east of Chad. If matters continue along these lines, before long, Bardai radio will begin to transmit programs from Ndjamena and the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]led by Goukouni Oueddei and the forces of the Chadian people will put an end to a chapter in the life of Chad, which has been shattered by conflicts and and which was drowned in the sea of imperialist hegemony, domination, and unlawful, fierce intervention.

While some consider the fall of Abeche to the GUNT forces as the fall of Ndjamena itself, others see in this achievement a political aspect of no less importance, as it will conclusively determine almost all the political attitudes. It must be noted that up to now there was not one single entity advising those who involve themselves in the internal affairs of the Chadian people to stop getting embroiled. Perhaps a country like Zaire should now realize that the 250 paratroopers it has thrown into the Chadian dunes will have no better chance to return to their kinsmen than a moonlit night whose calm has not yet been shattered by the blasts of guns and bullets fired in the direction of Ndjamena.

As for the French Government, one should not predict more than what is likely to happen. But we must always remember that the Socialists of France have always been against the imperialist policy of their country in Africa. It is an established fact that the French President Francois Mitterrand himself has been one of the arch-critics of that policy and strongly criticized it during his electioneering campaign about 2 years ago. Indeed, he won the elections then on the strength of his opposition to the policy of his predecessor Giscard d'Estaing in Africa in general and in Chad in particular and on the strength of his pledge to reverse it.

Hence, the surprise was great when it later became evident that Mitterrand only contradicted himself and his own slogans. But wisdom must be preserved in the current situation.

The Chadian people's determination and that of the GUNT forces, which represent all the Chadian factions, to decide their own fate remains the decisive factor in Chad.

JANA on Habre OAU Refusal

LD081822 Tripoli JANA in English 1745 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Ramadan 28, July 8, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Hissein Habre has objected to the despatch of an OAU committee to investigate alleged Libyan presence in Chad. He told OAU chairman, President Mengistu Haile Mariam, that he refuses to meet this committee. The chairman had taken the initiative to form this committee in view of the responsibility incumbent upon him to determine whether there is any truth to Libyan military presence in Chad.

Habre's refusal to receive the committee demonstrates his allegations to be groundless and proves him to be a liar and a cheat who uses any pretext to ask for foreign help and military reinforcements from the U.S., France, Egypt, Zaire, Sudan and others.

Furthermore, such a policy also ensures the internationalisation of the Chad conflict. It must also be pointed out that his reaction is also considered to be an enormous insult to the OAU which must not be allowed to pass.

We have absolute confidence in the OAU and are satisfied by the measures taken by President Mengistu. At the same time we stress the need to carry out the decision taken and expose the true nature of the rebel's clique in Ndjamena and its collusion with imperialism and U.S. agents. We, ourselves, are confident of the truth of our position which we have repeatedly declared to be neutral and based on non-intervention in Chad's internal affairs as long as there is no outside intervention in Chad.

Habre's rejection of the OAU decision makes him lose complete credibility in his position and allegations against Libya which only serve imperialist and reactionary interests to undermine Libya's own standing. It is wondered how can Habre dare to claim OAU legitimacy for his position when he has so openly turned down one of its decisions. Habre has exposed his own hypocrisy thereby asserting the fact that the conflict in Chad is internal and that President Goukouni Oueddei has every legal right to resume authority. It is also affirmed that the National Army of Liberation of the Government of National Unity is the only army involved in the fighting against the forces of rebel Hissien Habre and that there is no Libyan intervention in Chad. It shows that the only foreign intervention in the country has been by the military forces of Zaire, France, Sudan, Egypt and the Ivory Coast by the encouragement of the U.S.

Iraq-Egypt Relations Violate Summit Resolution

LD111528 Tripoli JANA in English 1431 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli Shawwal 1, July 11 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — the Iraqi regime's step to bring back the Egyptian regime into the Arab scene and to resume diplomatic relations with it, is considered a by-pass of the national resolution adopted

at the Baghdad summit and a violation of the Arab concensus to boycott the regime diplomatically.

This step proves once again the regime's weakness and incapability to fulfil any national commitment.

Saddam's regime by doing so sets a dangerous precedent which should not be let pass unnoticed. Despite the Iraqi regime's moves Husni Mubarak's regime has become more and more ineffective and lost its legitimacy and its reputation in decline because of its humiliating subjugation, to United States and Zionist enemy.

The Arab countries which participated in Baghdad summit should quickly move and put an end to such violation and live up to their commitment otherwise other countries would be encouraged to follow suit.

JANA: U.S. Preparing 'Terrorist Conspiracies'

LD111649 Tripoli JANA in English 1502 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawwal 1, July 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The U.S. Administration is planning to carry out another of its terrorist conspiracies against the Arab nation and its vital national forces. The Pentagon's announcement this week of its intention to carry out widescale maneuvers for the Rapid Deployment Forces in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, and Oman is part of the preparation for America's aggressive role in the region.

The Reagan administration has been able to guarantee the allegiance of those important regimes by enticing them with financial support, food supplies and other means. It appears that the U.S. has not learnt its lesson but is repeating the same saga as that enacted with the shah in Iran and Sadat in Egypt.

These maneuvers are aimed at nothing else but to spread terror through progressive countries in collusion with its hireling regimes.

These preparations must be countered by a unified militant stand and every U.S. stronghold in the Arab homeland and Africa should be destroyed.

MOROCCO

Royal Moroccan Forces Clash With 'Mercenaries'

LD111507 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] It was announced that a group of mercenaries, estimated to be 10 units, carried on 150 vehicles supported by 20 armored vehicles, launched an attack last night on the defense positions in Al-Masid in the recovered Moroccan Sahara.

The mercenaries launched their attack with gunfire from several points 14 km south of Al-Masid. They split into two groups in the direction of Maghdar Sultan and Al-Masid.

As soon as they were within range of the antitank weapons of the Royal Moroccan Forces, the first group of mercenaries was forced to retreat leaving behind a large number of destroyed vehicles including four armored vehicles.

The mercenaries resumed the gunfire on the defense positions before launching an attack northwest of Al-Masid in Sabkhat al-Bredla.

The Royal Moroccan Forces stopped the attack of the mercenaries and forced them to flee in the direction of Meharthiya leaving behind a large number of destroyed vehicles in the field. This operation resulted in destroying 10 armored vehicles and a great number of various kind of cars and the killing of 50 mercenaries and wounding many others. The Royal Moroccan Forces sustained 2 soldiers killed and 30 others wounded.

The criminal attack carried out by the mercenaries against our national soil, which was another occasion for our Royal Armed Forces to display their ability to foil all the maneuvers of the enemies of our national unity and their absolute control over the situation in the field, will be added to the suicidal assaults to which the mercenaries have accustomed us whenever there is a religious occasion or an international move or meeting.

The suicidal operation by the mercenaries on the morning of 10 July exploited two occasions: On the one hand, the mercenaries confirmed that they are what they are known to be, atheists and heretics, who would not let a holy occasion, an occasion which God has made for compassion, rapprochement, and calm, pass without bloddshed; on the other hand, they have given irrefutable evidence of their suspicious propaganda work aimed at misleading world public opinion.

Of course, such an act did not take our Royal Armed Forces by surprise, for they were waiting for them and inflicted a terrible defeat, which cost their fleeing remnants heavy losses in lives and equipment. Moreover their propaganda folly has only brought them further failure and disappointment in world public opinion, which has become more convinced that the mercenaries are misguided and mutinous, working to obstruct the implementation of the OAU decisions. If the dictates of history will yield a positive outcome of the referendum to be held in our restored regions, the mercenaries who know this fact are also aware of their destiny, for they are in the death throes of their false existence.

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Departs 10 July

LD101508 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] The Ethiopian Foreign Minister and special envoy of the Ethiopian president and current president of the OAU, Goshu Wolde, left Morocco this morning.

The Ethiopian envoy was received yesterday by His Majesty King Hassan II. He was seen off by secretary of state for foreign affairs Abdelhaq Tazi and a number of other personalities.

SUDAN

SUNA Reports Egypt's Ghali Remarks in Khartoum

JN111850 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Khartoum, July 11 (SUNA) Winding up a two-week African tour Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali arrived here today from Rwanda.

Ghali, who visited Sudan at the beginning of his African tour, this time will stay 24 hours in Khartoum during which he will talk with Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak.

At arrival in the airport Dr Ghali was received by Mr. Mirghani and the charge d'affaires of the Egyptian Embassy here.

In statement to SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) at the airport Mr Ghali made it clear that the objective of his African tour was the explanation of the dimensions of integration between Egypt and Sudan to those countries.

The talks with the officials in these countries was focused on the role of integration between Egypt and Sudan in boosting the African diplomacy as well as the two countries' role in embedding the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Dr Ghali said.

Ghali has visited Chad, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola, Zaire, and Rwanda in addition to Sudan.

Questioned by SUNA about his talks with the Chadian President Hissein Habre and his Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine, Mr Ghali said that he assured President Habre on the full Egyptian backing to legal government in Chad.

Egypt also made it clear that it supports any African diplomatic move for the sake of political independence and regional integrity in Chad, he added.

Egypt also blessed the national reconciliation adopted by the Chadian Government of President Habre, Ghali said.

We have great hope that the Chadian Government would be able to counter the foreign aggression which threatens the country.

Turning to his brief stay in Khartoum, Ghali said that he will hold talks with Foreign Minister Mubarak in the platform of coordinating the mutual diplomatic move.

On the issue of healing the rift within the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, Ghali expressed the Egyptian hope that reconciliation within the PLO would be accomplished virtually because the PLO is the vital body through which Palestinian people could realize self-determination.

About the Egyptian attitude towards an Arab summit to bolster the Palestinian cause, Ghali confirmed that Egypt backs any diplomatic move and supports the Palestinian cause.

Ghali will leave here for Cairo tomorrow.

TUNISIA

Baly Confers With Algerian Military Delegation

PM111001 Tunis L'Action in French 23 Jun 83 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Prospects for Cooperation Between the Tunisian and Algerian Armed Forces in Social Sphere"]

[Text] National Defense Minister Slaheddine Baly had a meeting at the National Defense Ministry late yesterday morning with an Algerian military delegation in the presence of several senior officers from the national Armed Forces.

The meeting related to the prospects of cooperation between the Tunisian and Algerian Armed Forces, especially in the social sphere.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Reaction to Moroccan Referendum Proposal

LD111145 Algiers APS In Arabic 0800 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Hauza, 11 Jul (APS) — The Saharan Ministry of Information Saturday published in Hauza in the liberated territories the SDAR Government's reaction to the recent statement made by the Moroccan king regarding the organization of a referendum in the Western Sahara in accordance with resolution of the 19th OAU summit conference held in Addis Ababa.

King Hasan II, in this regard, last Friday actually stressed that even if the answer were no — and this is something [word indistinct] — there was nothing that would force Morocco to offer the Sahara on a silver platter to a band of mercenaries.

The Saharan Ministry of Information's statement pointed out that "the Moroccan Royal Palace's rejection has confirmed its previous intransigence before the path of peace, and this is not surprising to the Saharan side." "After a short period of procrastination and trickery aimed at confusing the international public opinion about its alleged will for peace, Morocco has departed from its ambiguous reservations by openly expressing its absolute rejection of the OAU resolution in letter and spirit."

After recalling that "the Saharan Government officially announced its acceptance of the peace plan on the liquidation of colonialism from the Western Sahara and relating to the conflict between SDAR and Morocco, [words indistinct] that the Moroccan attitude vis-a-vis the OAU and world public opinion is due to the military and financial support being collectively offered to the king over the past 2 years. This support has qualitatively changed the balance of power in the Northwest Africa region. [quotation marks as received] "The statement stated that Morocco's being provided with very advanced weapons especially from the United States" prompted the Moroccan king to talk today on the possibility of achieving a military victory, and this makes us wonder about the reasons which led the king to agree on a peaceful solution and negotiations."

Recalling that the OAU has admitted that conflict exists between Morocco and SDAR, the statement added that the Saharan Government takes the international community as a witness to the rigidity of the Moroccan regime and its rejection of the path of peace and, consequently, its rejection of ending the war.

SOMALIA

Spokesman on Foreign Bases in Ethiopia

EA112034 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] A spokesman for the SDR Foreign Ministry said today that the black colonialist Mengistu administration, with its obdurate, treacherous, misleading, and concocted lies on the internal affairs of its country and the situation in the Horn of Africa, recently claimed that there are no foreign bases on Abyssinian territory.

The spokesman said the real situation is that Mengistu and his henchmen could never conceal from the world that Abyssinian territory has become a land, sea and air base belonging to a superpower. The main aim of this base is to ensure that peace does not prevail in the Horn of Africa, and to ensure that the region remains a war zone. The whole aim of the superpower is to fan the fire already burning in the countries of East Africa, the Red Sea, and the Gulf region.

The SDR Foreign Ministry spokesman added that the bases of the superpower in Abyssinian territory are at Assab, Dahlak, and Massawa in the region of Eritrea and Debre Zeit. The bases are not only endangering the peace, stability, and progress of this region, but also that of the whole of Africa, Asia, and the world. The bases go against the very foundation of the nonaligned nations, the OAU, the United Nations, and existing cooperation between Africa and the Arab world.

The SDR Foreign Ministry statement said the greatest danger in the region is the presence of foreign forces on Abyssinian territory. The spokesman added that the presence of Cuban, Russian, and other forces does not only interfere with the sovereignty of Abyssian territory, but is a constant threat to the freedom and the very existence of the countries in the East African region.

In addition to the permanent instability, tension, and the threat to a lasting peace in the region, the presence of foreign troops there prolongs the life of the Addis Ababa regime, headed by dictator Mengistu, and continues to oppress and deprive the people under black Abyssinian colonialist rule of their just right to self-determination. The constant oppression, pillaging, and massacre unleashed on the people of Abo, Eritrea, Tigrai, and others will neither cow them nor stop the SDR Government from extending humanitarian assistance to them.

The spokesman also said that the chairman of the OAU this year, Mengistu, should stop being the stooge of a superpower whose sole interest is to ensure that there is no peace in this region and the world.

The spokesman added that the OAU has recognized the present Chadian Government as the legitimate representative of the people of Chad, who have not seen peace for nearly 2 decades. It is unfortunate, however, that Mengistu, while wearing that hat of the OAU chairman, has sided with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who has vowed to crush and destroy the sovereignty of the Chadian nation. Such a move, which contravenes the OAU Charter, clearly demonstrates the obdurate policies of Mengistu and Al-Qadhdhafi, who are bent on implementing the global policies of a superpower.

Mengistu and Al-Qadhdhafi have turned their countries into storage facilities for a superpower's modern weaponary, exceeding their needs, crippling the economies of their countries, and only serving the chauvinistic policy of a superpower, said the spokesman.

He added that the forces of the Libyan and Abyssinian regimes have been trained, armed, and financed to effectively fight in other countries.

The SDR Government vehemently condemns naked interference and the presence of foreign troops in the Horn of Africa, and calls on the Libyan and Abyssinian regimes to stop interfering in the internal affairs of Chad and threatening the very existence of the legitimate Government of Chad.

More Soldiers Defect From Regime Forces

EA112106 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Over 180 former loyalist soldiers of the Barre regime have defected to the armed struggle of the Somali people to help topple the dictatorial Mogadishu regime.

Reports reaching us from the 15th Gorod Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces, say most of the defecting soldiers joined the struggle with their weapons.

The soldiers from the dying Barre regime reported for active duty at Balambal base, 15th Gorod Division of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces.

CAMEROON

Presidential Press Release on Chad Reported

AB081835 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] A press release from the Presidency of the United Republic of Cameroon says the problem in Chad can only be resolved peacefully and legally without foreign interference. As such, the government calls on the international community, notably member countries of the OAU, to give the rightful Government of Chad all the necessary support in order to safeguard national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and stability.

The release further states that the Cameroonian Government, deeply concerned about the situation in Chad, wishes for the reestablishment of peace, national reconciliation, and reconstruction in that country in crisis.

CHAD

Further Reportage on Fighting Near Abeche

Battle Still in Progress

NC111833 Paris AFP in English 1817 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 11 (AFP) — Fighting was continuing today in and around Chad's key eastern town of Abeche between forces of President Hissein Habre and those of his ousted predecessor Goukouni Oueddei, Mr Habre's information minister, Soumaila Mahamat, said here. Mr Soumaila said Mr Habre's forces had the upper hand and plans had been laid "not only to stop the Libyans, but to crush them."

Mr Habre's government says that Libyans are fighting with Mr Goukouni, an allegation denied by Tripoli, which however supports the ex-president both logistically and morally.

Mr Soumaila admitted that government troops had retreated Friday west from Abeche towards Oum Hadjer, on the road to Ndjamena, but said they were now taking part in the counter-offensive.

He repeated an earlier call by Mr Habre for further French aid, notably in air cover and troops, adding that weapons supplied by France and other countries had already reached the front and were being used in the battle for Abeche.

Meanwhile, on the weekly flight from Paris to Ndjamena, Mr Habre's secretary-general Kerin Togoi said it was not correct that a military cooperation agreement forbade the dispatch of French troops to Chad. But he acknowledged that it excluded French soldiers from engaging in direct combat.

Another passenger on the plane, Education Minister Abba Sidick, was returning after talks in Paris with Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's special adviser on Africa, and Pierre Joxe, parliamentary leader of France's ruling Socialist Party. He warned that if France declines to intervene, "It will no longer represent anything in Africa, and will do the will of the Soviet Union, which is using (Libyan leader Mu'ammar) al-Qadhdhafi."

GUNT Forces Claim Control

JN111522 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Abderahman Moussa, former Chadian ambassador to Paris and representative of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] under Goukouni Oueddei, today reaffirmed to French television that the strategic city of Abeche, in the eastern part of Chad, is actually in the hands of Goukouni Oueddei's forces. He added that the claim by the forces of Hissein Habre that they have regained control of this city is a psychological operation to reassure public opinion in Ndjamena. He said that no differences exist between the GUNT and the Government of France.

Status of Town Unclear

JN112052 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Battles are continuing in Chad, but there are no confirmed reports as to who is controlling the strategic city of Abeche. Government sources announced that President Hissein Habre's forces recaptured the city yesterday evening, while Goukouni Oueddei's supporters confirmed that Abeche is under their control.

President Hissein Habre has called for French intervention, and the Libyan ambassador in Paris has said that any French military intervention in Chad will be considered by Libya as military action against Libya.

Bardai: Abeche Spoils Listed

AB111950 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Abeche, capital of Ouaddai and an important strategic town in the eastern part of the country, finally fell into the hands of the National Liberation Army [ANL], the revolutionary army of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], on Sunday, 10 July. In fact, with the approach of the liberation forces on Saturday, 9 July, Hissein Habre's men fled the town of Abeche, thus allowing the occupation to take place with only the slightest resistance.

Reinforced with war materials and highly sophisticated arms recently delivered by several Western countries, notably France, but also including Egypt, Zaire et cetera, the puppet forces launched a counteroffensive on the morning of Sunday, 10 July, against the ANL position in Abeche. The counter-counteroffensive of the GUNT revolutionary forces was sharp and quite decisive, as shown by our special correspondent's provisional report on the casualties suffered during the battle: On the side of the FAN, 300 prisoners of war and several hundred dead and wounded. Materiel captured: 2 [name indistinct], 1

(Pecou) cannon; 5 SPG-9's, 5 55-mm recoilless cannons, 1 120-mm mortar, 12 mortars of different calibers, 1 122-mm mortar, several light arms, and a large and impressive collection of ammunition. Automobiles captured: One Mercedes, one Berliner, one Toyota, and three Landrover pickups.

Overall Military Situation Updated

JN120654 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] Violent battles are still going on in Chad amid contradictory reports on the outcome of those military actions. Government sources in the Chadian capital mentioned last night that the government forces have, in a counteroffensive, recaptured the township of Abeche, 700 km east of Ndjamena. The same sources added that government troops have also retaken strategic positions previously occupied by the opposition forces in the regions of (Kali) and Oum Chalouba on the highway to Largeau in the northern part of Chad.

For its part, the opposition radio station broadcast statements last night which were the completely contradicted the information disseminated by the government. The radio said that the opposition forces are in full control of Abeche and that the counteroffensive has been utterly defeated, with hundreds of attackers killed or wounded. The radio indicated that the opposition forces are currently in control of more than half of Chad's territory. This situation, according to the radio, has forced certain African countries, particularly Sudan, to decide to cope with the new realities in a completely objective manner, and, consequently, to decline to interfere in Chadian domestic affairs.

Bardai Radio Comments on Present Situation

AB112210 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Jul 83

["Clarifications" from the office of the president on current events in Chad — date not given]

[Text] Following the recent military developments in Chad, we have seen a mind-poisoning campaign unfold that seeks to misrepresent the facts, with the ultimate goal of internationalizing the conflict. It is within this context that one must see the so-called presence of Libyan troops on the side of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] [words indistinct]. On the other hand, false denials such as those about the fierce fighting in Oum Chalouba, Arada, Biltine, and, most recently, in Abeche, or those dealing with the supposed regrouping of 15,000 FAN soldiers, et cetera, are all aimed at restoring the fortunes of the FAN, which have been destroyed on the battlefield, and at giving it the necessary outlet while awaiting the help so desperately needed from its masters. [Words indistinct] since the successive debacles in Gouro, Ounianga, and, with the fall of the town of Faya, the antinational army is totally defeated. The fact that the districts of Biltine and Ouaddai have been won over clearly demonstrates this reality. Through their campaign of lies, it is becoming clear that the imperialist powers want to intervene directly. The first step in the escalation of the war was taken by Zaire when it sendt an expeditionary force of paratroopers into an exclusively Chadian conflict that is taking place far from its borders.

The GUNT, the sole and legitimate representative of the Chadian people, cannot remain forever indifferent to such an extremely dangerous situation — one whose consequences are many and incalculable. It gives a final warning to all adventurers and to all the forces of evil whose dream is to colonize Chad once again. They are warned to abandon their dreams and Machiavellian plans, for nothing can stop the revolutionary march of the Chadian people, determined to consolidate their true independence regardless of the sacrifices involved in this noble mission.

Now that the districts of Biltine and Ouaddai have been won over, we have come to the following conclusions:

1. The puppet army has been annihilated and is no longer an obstacle to the victorious march of the National Liberation Army.

2. More than half of the country, especially the territory along the border between Chad and Sudan, has come under the effective control of the GUNT. In the face of this new situation, we want to remind all African countries that are neighbors of Chad — and especially Sudan — to objectively examine the reality created by these recent developments and to therefore abstain from any interference in Chad's internal affairs. As for the GUNT, conscious of its historic responsibilities, it offers the necessary guarantees of its position of principles, namely, noninterference in the internal affairs of a third country; and maintenance of friendly, good neighborly relations with all countries bordering on Chad. To this end, the GUNT is ready to send goodwill missions to neighboring countries, especially to Sudan, to reexamine all problems connected with the border issue.

This call goes to the commander and soldiers of the national annihilation forces: To avoid the unnecessary loss of Chadian life, we ask all FAN soldiers wherever they may be, to follow the example of some of their friends by immediately laying down their arms and joining the revolutionary cause of the Chadian people.

Goukouni Seeks Talks With 'Government Forces'

AB120750 Paris AFP in English 0724 GMT 12 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 12 (AFP) — Both sides in Chad's renewed civil war are claiming control of the strategic eastern town of Abeche.

While government sources here said President Hissein Habre's men had recaptured the town and taken Libyan troops prisoner when recapturing two smaller towns, the Libyan-backed rebel forces of former President Goukouni Oueddei said they now "definitively" controlled Abeche after seizing it last Friday.

The government radio said the capture of Libyans in the towns of Kalait and Oum Chalouba, some 200 kms (125 miles) north of Abeche on the road to the rebel-held northern capital of Faya-Largeau — was "proof" they were fighting alongside the "Chadian mercenaries." Government troops taken prisoner by the

rebels had been freed in the recapture of Abeche, it said. The Goukouni radio, in the northern rebel headquarters town of Bardai, said the Habre troops had fled Friday before the rebel advance. They returned on Sunday, "equipped with French and other Western arms," but were driven off. Several hundred Habre troops had been killed or wounded in the [words indistinct].

A rebel statement said the Goukouni forces now controlled more than half the country. It called on the rest of Africa to avoid all interference in Chad's internal affairs and promised talks on border matters with neighbouring Sudan.

The statement, broadcast on Bardai radio, denounced Western "propaganda" in favour of the Habre regime.

(In a French television interview Monday night, Mr Goukouni called for the first time for talks with government forces, as long Mr Habre [words indistinct] involved.

(In Paris, the French Defence Ministry strongly denied a French radio station report that a Marine infantry parachute regiment would leave the southern French town of Carcassonne today for Chad. French rapid intervention forces were simply on the alert, a ministry spokesman said.)

Chadian Information Minister Mahamat Soumalia repeated Monday Mr Habre's call for further French military aid, beyond arms already sent to Chad. Mr Habre's secretary-general, Kerin Togoi, meanwhile noted as he flew back to Ndjamena from Paris Monday that Chad's military aid agreement with France did not ban the dispatch of troops, only their involvement in direct combat.

RWANDA

Egypt's Ghali Reports on Talks With Habyarimana

EA111644 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1115 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Mr Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, who has been in our country since Saturday, was received this morning by President Juvenal Habyarimana. The Egyptian envoy handed our head of state a written message from President Husni Mubarak of Egypt. The Egyptian minister will now brief us on the contents of this message.

[Begin recording] The message is a one of friendship, [words indistinct] solidarity. It also contains an official invitation for the president of the Republic of Rwanda to visit Egypt.

I also had the opportunity to present the Egyptian point of view on certain international problems, and on certain African problems as well, most notably the joint action by Rwanda and Egypt to accelerate the decolonization of Namibia. We discussed the Chadian problem, which greatly concerns us. Clearly, this civil war can only impoverish the people of Chad and make the development of this brotherly country more difficult. We also had a chance to discuss the Palestinian problem and I briefed the president of the republic on Egyptian diplomatic efforts to help the Palestinian people exercise their right to self-determination.

But bilateral problems between Kigali and Cairo were the main subject of my briefing, which received the president's approval. Our two governments are in complete agreement on the question of giving new impetus to cooperation between Kigali and Cairo, a new impetus to give renewed strength to this cooperation, not only in the technical sphere, the sphere of technical cooperation, but also as regards trade and culture. You have agricultural products which Egypt could buy: coffee and tea, for instance. Egypt has not yet managed to attain self-sufficiency in food and this is one of the reasons why it imports foodstuffs from different parts of the world. It is important, however, that this food be purchased first and foremost from African countries, because through such commercial relations we will be able to strengthen our political and economic ties.

We discussed...I also briefed the president of the republic on the idea of creating a special sort of solidarity among the different countries which lie along the Nile, following the example of the Senegal River, which has served as the basis for an economic grouping. We think that the Nile Basin could play a similar role in a possible economic grouping of the nine Nile countries, that is: Rwanda, Burundi, Zaire, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Egypt, and Sudan [Uganda not mentioned]. These countries have this river in common. It is navigable and can provide the infrastructure for regional cooperation in line with the resolutions adopted by both Rwanda and Egypt at the Lagos summit. The Lagos plan favors cooperation on a regional and sub-regional basis.

All in all, I can say that my stay here has been extremely fruitful and has allowed us to lay the foundations for fresh cooperation between our two brotherly peoples, governments, and countries.

ZAIRE

Mobutu on Aid to Habre, Libya's 'Threat'

AB111345 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The situation in Chad is grave and disturbing because no one on our continent took Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's threat to this African country seriously. This statement was made yesterday by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, founding-chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, while answering questions from journalists representing Radio France Internationale.

On this occasion, Leader Mobutu Sese Seko confirmed the dispatch of 3 Zairian fighter aircraft and 252 men, including civil aviation technicians and a military company to protect the Ndjamena airport. In any case, the head of state went straight to the point by saying that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, wants to destabilize African countries.

Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko described the offensive by the forces of Goukouni Oueddei as a typical act of aggression, since the aggressors received their military training in Libya. They were also coached and equipped militarily by the Libyans. In addition, the founding-chairman affirmed that some friendly countries have agreed to ask France to act in defense of Chad's territorial

integrity, which has been violated by this act of aggression. These same countries are reportedly ready to follow Zaire's example, but are prevented from doing so by a lack of means.

Further Reportage on Kamanda-Ghali Talks

AB081445 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Chad, Namibia, apartheid, disarmament, the Middle East, peace, and security — these are the points that are likely to be touched upon whenever two diplomats meet these days. Egyptian and Zairian diplomats have been working hard since yesterday, and have expressed a perfect identity of views on all these problems. This is what State Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Kamanda wa Kamanda said yesterday at the Restaurant des Eaux upon receiving Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, who arrived in our country yesterday.

The state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation stressed that the visit by the Egyptian statesman to Zaire testifies to the exemplary and privileged nature of relationsbetween Egypt and Zaire. Zaire, he continued, is convinced that Egypt, the cradle of one of the most remarkable civilizations in the world, has a great role to play in Africa and a level-headed message to give the entire region. Kamanda wa Kamanda then added that Egypt and Zaire are determined to resist the deliberate introduction of destabilizing elements into the African Continent.

Commenting on the deliberations of the sixth UNCTAD meeting, the state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation pointed out that the poor outcome of this meeting calls for the strengthening of South-South cooperation, a factor given great weight by both Egypt and Zaire.

In his reply, Butrus Ghali stressed the need for honesty, which is a true common denominator for Zaire and Egypt because this search aids the two countries in a fundamental way to find their own solutions to their problems with respect for human rights in the universal society to which they belong. The Egyptian minister spoke about the senselessness of conflict and stressed the need to settle African disagreements within African contexts and without any foreign interference in order to avoid subversion and destabilization on the continent.

Zairian Roving Ambassador Citizen Gnow Mobutu also attended the dinner party.

GHANA

Rawlings Talks to PRELA About Militia, Coup

FL112155 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1822 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Air Force Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, chairman of Ghana's Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], told PRENSA LATINA [PRELA] the government would initiate the systematic plan to establish the people's militia in his country.

After the last attempted coup d'etat on 19 June of this year, the people have urgently demanded that the armed militia be established, the Ghanaian revolutionary leader added. Rawlings told PRELA that Ghana already has groups of well-armed and trained militiamen deployed along the country's border zones. The people are ready to defend the revolution and Ghana's PNDC is obligated to supply the means and training to achieve this objective, Ghana's highest leader stressed.

Referring to the 19 June coup attempt, Rawlings said the people demonstrated they would not stand idly by and see their power taken from them. The young chief of state said the People's Defense Committees immediately mobilized, established road control points, and captured several of the fugitives, traitors, and enemies of the Ghanaian revolution. Rawlings asserted that after the 19 June coup attempt, Ghana's revolutionary process is stronger than ever.

Jerry Rawlings told PRELA that the CIA's denials, trying to make believe it has noting to do with the revolutionary fronts in Ghana and Central America, have very little merit.

Government Relaxes Curfew, Working Hours

AB111325 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The curfew hours have been further relaxed. They will now start from 10 pm to 4.30 am. Working hours have also been changed back to normal, that is, 8 am to 5 pm.

DAILY GRAPHIC Comments on Restructuring Judiciary

AB090931 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The *People's Daily Graphic* comments on the call by the National Defense Committee for a coordinated action on the restructuring of the public civil service and the judiciary and says this must be seen in the light of the erection of an upright program which can stand the test of time. The *Graphic*, however, cautions all defense committees that their resolve for the needed changes in the whole system must not be shaken if at times their actions are not acclaimed by other progressive organs. And any denunciation or rejection of some of their actions should not be taken as an attempt to shove [as heard] the revolutionary fire.

The paper agrees that the defense committees must, by all means, behave on issues of national interest because this is what popular participatory democracy entails, but pounts out that uncoordinated and unilateral actions on such issues may do more harm than good and the committees would be doing this country a world of good if they refrain from such activities. On the recommendation of the composition of the Judicial Council to reflect a truly representative body, the *Graphic* says this will ensure a democratic representation and must be given a chance to come into fruition.

The paper concludes that the past 3 months have proved a trying period for the revolution but the incidents, which occurred at that time, must serve as an eye-opener for the progressive forces and the defense committees in particular.

IVORY COAST

Zairian Minister Arrives With Mobutu Message

AB112058 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Zairian Foreign Affairs Minister Kamanda wa Kamanda arrived in Abdijan this afternoon to deliver a message from President Mobutu Sese Seko to President Houphouet-Boigny. He was welcomed by [Foreign] Minister Simeon Ake. At 1730 he was received by Auguste Denise, minister of state acting for the president of the republic. As expected, the Zairian diplomat told reporter Konan Tesie after the audience that his message dealt with the situation in Chad:

[Begin Kamanda recording] I have just delivered a personal message from President Mobutu to President [as heard] Auguste Denise to be handed over to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. You know the ties of friendship and fraternity between Presidents Houphouet-Boigny and Mobutu as well as the ties between the two brotherly peoples of Ivory Coast and Zaire. It is natural that at this turbulent period in Africa our heads of state should exchanges views at the appropriate level in order to find the best ways to safeguard and maintain peace and stability on our continent. President Mobutu's message to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny is within this framework.

As you can expect, we also discussed the Chadian issue, which is of conern to all of us. It is normal that our heads of state and all OAU member states should exchange views in order to find the best ways to react in the face of this situation. If we do not, the precedent that will created in Chad — which is today the victim of foreign aggression — will be extremely be unfortunate. [end recording]

Intervening in Chad with the means at one's disposal is a moral act for member states of the organization. Mr Kamanda wa Kamanda now explains why his country is intervening militarily, even if this aid is modest:

[Begin recording] The despatch of a Zairian contingent to Chad is a symbolic contribution to the defense of legitimacy of a

friendly legitimate government, of a member state of the OAU that is the victim of foreign aggression. We think this aggression is also a violation of the principles of the OAU Charter, of the elementary rules of international law, as well as the UN Charter. It is also a violation of the resolution adopted by the 19th summit concerning this Chadian issue. The resolution calls on the parties in the conflict to abstain from all that could aggravate the situation. The resolution reactivated the OAU ad hoc committee which has been in existence since 1977 and whose purpose is to seek ways and means to solve this problem, in conformity with respect for territorial integrity and for the sovereignty and independence of Chad. [end recording]

FRATERNITE MATIN Calls on West to Save Chad

AB111840 Abidjan Fraternite Matin in French 11, 12 Jul 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Save Chad and Africa"]

[Text] The situation in Chad is getting very bad. Is it a simple euphemism or an obvious understatement? Yes, but how does one describe a situation which has never progressed toward the achievement of calm peace and unity since Chad achieved its sovereignty?

Tombalbaye, Malloum, Goukouni, Hissein Habre? Leaders succeed each other in violence that is increasingly ruthless and bloody while the Chadians look on with indifference. Political leaders come and go, the after-effects of conflicts remain, and the personal resentments of the overthrown "lords" persist.

It was believed, however, that calm had returned to Ndjamena over a year ago, that the need for peace and unity in Chad had been deeply felt, that Chad had found in its new leader and in his openness new reasons to be hopeful. Alas, that was calculating without taking into account the exacerbated ambitions of the Goukouni's, the Kamougues ... etc., of others who are indisputably in the pay of Tripoli. The arms, the Stalin Organs, and the transport and communication equipment that they use are proof. It seems, and it is proved each day, that 1,000-5,000 Libyan and East German soldiers are participating in the fratricidal war in Chad.

Abeche fell into the hands of the enemy and has been recaptured. But everything shows that nothing is stopping the Libyan and Soviet steamroller on the road to conquer Chadian territory. And nothing will be the same as before if these grave-diggers of Africa achieve their aim.

Let us imagine the following situation for a while: Ndjamena is occupied, with power in the hands of a puppet government which is incapable of resisting the force of a joint Libyan-Chadian union rapidly elaborated and established; and here we are then, the Soviets and Libyans established in the heart of Africa ready to not only hawk their "red and green revolutions" respectively but also their destabilization maneuvers for their own individual purposes.

We have not as yet reached this stage, but this is the horizon toward which our continent is ineluctably heading if nothing is done to halt and to nullify this Al-Qadhdhafi march. It is in this context that we must understand the very recent appeal made to the international community by the Cameroonian Government, as well as those made by President Houphouet-Boigny to the leaders of the free world asking them to safeguard the security and to ensure the development of our continent. It is in a similar vein that complete [sans complexe] mobilization by our countries in favor of Hissein Habre's government should be understood.

Certainly, some weapons were supplied to the legitimate government in Chad and declarations condemning support for Goukouni Oueddei were made, but during all this time the Libyan-Soviet advance continued down the field. One can observe that the "the cat and mouse play" of the West in the face of increasing Soviet inclinations is no longer sufficient.

We therefore expecting action rather than promises and declarations to show us that the guardians of liberty have heard our appeals to save Chad today, and tomorrow all Africa.

LIBERIA

New Foreign Minister Takes Office

AB112212 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman says despite Liberia's problems the country has gained international posture and acquired international experience that is still relevant to Africa and the nations beyond. The new Foreign Minister was speaking today at the Foreign Ministry where he was introduced to the staff by the minister of state for presidential affairs, Major John G. Ramsey.

Minister Eastman also said that, even though Liberia was underdeveloped technologically, the country was culturally developed. He pointed out that this development has been a key to the country's franchise acquired more than 130 years ago coupled with the advice of elders and (?tribal) elements that compose the nation. He called on his fellow countrymen to pray for the continued well-being of the country.

Maj Ramsey then challenged the Foreign Ministry to reflect the true image of the Liberian revolution by expanding Liberian domestic policy to the outside world, noting that it would help to attract investment to the country.

Acting Foreign Minister Captain Christopher Minikon welcomed Minister Eastman to the Foreign Ministry and assured him of his cooperation.

NIGERIA

STAR Raps U.S. Suport for 'Oppressive Regimes'

AB111300 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt][Passage omitted] The *Daily Star* condemns the United States for being hypocritical as far as human freedom is concerned. Supporting the statement by Chief Edwin Ume-ezeoke [speaker of the House of Representatives] that all peace-loving peoples of the world should condemn the Reagan administration for its continued relation with racist South Africa, the *Star* says Africa will always condemn Washington's double standard. The black continent, the paper continues, could only stop condemning the U.S. support for oppressive regimes, if it changes its attitude or policy on this matter.

TOGO

President Reports on Talks in Europe

AB090925 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Shortly after his return from visits to Belgium and France, the president of the republic yesterday presided over the Cabinet meeting to brief the members of government of the outcome of these two visits to Europe.

Talking first of all about his official visit to Belgium, President Eyadema described as interesting his talks with King Baudoin, which, he said, usher in a new era of active and effective cooperation between Belgium and Togo. President Eyadema said Belgium, which for a long time has limited itself in its relations with African countries, would like to extend the scope of its cooperation to other African countries including Togo. The head of state affirmed that this Belgium-Togo cooperation is going to be manifested in the construction of a nursery farm at Notche, the first pilot project of Belgium abroad. Also, an important delegation of businessmen from the Belgian-African Chamber of Commerce is expected in Togo in January.

Addressing the leaders of the EEC, the head of state stressed the role of the Lome Convention, which is irreplaceable and positive example of cooperation between developing countries and European nations. The founding chairman talked about the need to improve the convention and to increase the export stabilization fund in order to satisfy the enormous needs of the ACP [African, Carribean, Pacific] countries. The head of state asked the ACP representatives and ambassadors of ECOWAS countries to unite to form a homogenous and solid bloc to face the Western partners because, according to President Eyadema, it is only in unity and solidarity that they can fight for the interest of developing countries.

Speaking about his private visit to France, the founding chairman described as satisfactory his two meetings with the president of the French Republic, Francois Mitterrand, with whom he discussed bilateral, African, and world issues.

On the second day of his official visit to Brusssels, General Eyadema visited the seat of the EEC where he met ambassadors of the Common Market. Earlier, the head of state received Edgar Pisani, European commissioner for development. Mr Pisani and Gaston Thorn, president of the EEC, were decorated by President Eyadema as grand officers of the Order of Mono. This ceremony was followed by a working session of the EEC delegation and that of Togo, presided over by the head of state. The deliberations mainly concerned strengthening cooperation between the EEC and Togo. Mr Thorn stressed the revitalizing of ACP-EEC cooperation within the framework of a renewal of the Lome II Convention. Concerning relations between the Common Market and Togo, Mr Thorn expressed satisfaction with the policy of a balanced socioeconomic development adopted by President Eyadema, especially in the field of food production.

On his part, President Eyadema was satisfied with the results of 10 years of cooperation between Togo and the EEC. He briefed Mr Thorn on the dramatic situation facing the Third World nations because of the selfishness of the rich countries which are concerned only with their interests and profits. The head of state said it is necessary to establish more just and equitable relations between the North and South. To achieve this, the president felt that there should be more imagination and wisdom during the next round of negotiations in order to find correct and realistic formulas which will solve the problem of stagnation in relations between the ACP and EEC.

On cooperation between Togo and the EEC, Gen Eyadema asked his collaborators to assist in the country's development program, particularly in the field of agriculture.

While in Brussels, the head of state also received Charles (Rutz), vice president of the European Investment Bank. This audience was followed by a reception at the ACP building where the head of state met ambassadors of the ACP countries. He took opportunity of this occasion to plead for cohesion among ACP countries and an increased cooperation between them. After all, the president said, whatever be the weakness and failures of the ACP-EEC association, it still remains exemplary in the principles which govern it and which henceforth should overcome the selfishness and injustice which have up till now characterized the relations between men and nations of the North and South.

Zairian Official Delivers Mobutu Message

AB112156 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] A Zairian envoy was at the presidential palace in Lome this morning. State Commissioner for Transport and Communications Inonga Lokongo Lome delivered a message to President

Gnassingbe Eyadema from his Zairian counterpart, President Mobutu Sese Seko. Accompanied by citizen Kamanda Ngongo, Zaire's ambassador to Togo, and by Togolese Commerce and Transport Minister Kpahi Djalla, the Zairian envoy was received by the head of state, with whom he discussed the Chadian issue.

[Begin recording][Inongo] I delivered to the president and founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally a message from his friend and brother Field Marshal Mobutu. This message is within the context of the permanent contacts between the two heads of state. I also had the opportunity of discussing with the Togolese head of state, on behalf of the Zairian head of state, current African and world affairs. Apart from that, we spent a large part of our time discussing the Chadian problem, because it is a big problem for the African world. I can say that we were happy to note that we share the same analysis of the situation in Chad and that we have the same identity of views.

[Question by unidentified reporter] The committee established in Addis Ababa to study this issue will meet on 15 July in Addis Ababa. As far as Zaire is concerned, will the aggressor have to be identified and steps taken to stop this aggression or will the true facts be established and then negotiations begin with the two sides in order to arrive at a sort of (?compromise)?

[Inongo] I think the Chadian problem is clear enough. The previous OAU summit recognized Hissein Habre's government, and this is a determining factor accepted by everybody. The second factor is that the elements who entered Chad were recruited, trained, equipped, and absorbed by Libyans. And this constitutes an external aggression, and, at this point, the situation is clear. There is a legitimate government that has suffered aggression and to this effect there is no other position than condemning the aggression against a legitimate government. All I have to say, on behalf of the Executive Council of Zaire is that the position (?has clarified itself). [end recording]

Further Reportage on SADCC Summit in Mozambique

Opening Speeches Reported

MB111250 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The fourth summit of heads of state and government of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] opened in Maputo this morning in camera. The presidents of Mozambique, Angola, and Botswana, Samora Machel, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, and Quett Masire, respectively, spoke at the opening session.

In his welcoming speech, President Samora Machel said that the SADCC already possesses a solid foundation and is working vigorously to attain the goal of economic liberation. The Mozambique head of state added that the prospects for economic liberation opened up by the SADCC are the cause of both the renewed acts of aggression by the racist South Africans and of the destabilization policy which they carry out. President Machel emphasized that our response to this threat must be based on unity, our firm and solid foundation, in order to allow us to further the ideals of the Lusaka Declaration.

On the drought, the worst in recent decades, the Mozambique head of state noted that this issue must receive attention during the proceedings of the fourth summit, and called for a coordination of efforts to minimize its effect.

In his speech, the president of Angola, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, pointed out that the approximately 300 identified projects, some of which have already been guaranteed financing, reaffirmed the vitality of the SADCC.

The chairman of the SADCC, Quett Masire, made a brief analysis of the implementation of the Lusaka program. According to the priorities of the SADCC program, the fields of transportation and communications continue to be in the vanguard, with some projects already completed and others in the process of implementation, the presidentt of Botswana said.

Meanwhile, the next conference of SADCC donors is scheduled to take place in Harare, Zimbabwe, between November and December of this year.

Opening Speeches Criticize RSA

MB110929 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The fourth summit of heads of state and government of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] opened in Maputo this morning. Three speeches, including the speech by the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Field Marshal Samora Machel, marked the inaugural session of the meeting.

Focusing on the danger which the racist Pretoria regime represents for peace and development in southern Africa, Samora Machel pointed out that the SADCC was now the undisputed body for cooperation in the region.

Other speakers at the meeting were Presidents Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Quett Masire of Botswana, who also denounced the belligerent policy of the Pretoria regime, which has as its aim the frustration of the SADCC's objectives. Quett Masire referred to the achievements made in implementing the Lusaka program and singled out the transport sector led by Mozambique as one which was at the vanguard in terms of the implementation of projects.

More on Speeches

MB111346 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] President Samora Machel has accused South Africa of trying to prevent harmonious development and progress in southern Africa through the most gross violations of the basic rules of coexistence of sovereign states.

In his opening speech to the fourth summit of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] in Maputo this morning, the president said that South Africa has systematically intensified its militaristic and expansionist policy since the SADCC was founded in 1980. He stressed that it has always been clear that the SADCC was not aimed at interfering in the internal affairs of South Africa. What the apartheid regime feared, he said, was the example of a free and democratic society that the SADCC was creating.

The president said that South Africa was using regular troops, special detachments, secret agents, armed bandits, and even common criminals to foment insecurity in the region. Through armed action and economic sabotage, he said, Pretoria wanted to force its neighbors to divert a large part of their resources to defense. President Samora emphasized the importance of unity among SADCC members as the only way to guarantee the success of the organization. He said it was through the difficult struggles against destabilization and against the devastating drought affecting most of southern Africa that the SADCC became increasingly strong.

In reply, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola said the success of the SADCC could make a great contribution to the struggle of the people of southern Africa against oppression, exploitation, and discrimination.

The chairman of the SADCC, President Quett Masire of Botswana, said that unless South Africa was forced to desist from its actions the situation would deteriorate to the stage where international conflict becomes inevitable and orderly development impossible. President Masire said that although the SADCC had been conceived at a time of severe world economic depression it was already recognized as an influential factor in the determination of the future pattern of development in southern Africa.

Referring to the Maseru conference in January, he said that potential investors have been identified for 74 of the 90 industrial projects presented. He said that a meeting of trade and finance ministers in Tanzania this September would be an important step in promoting trade between SADCC countries. President Masire

ended his speech by thanking international cooperation partners for their support.

After President Masire's speech, the meeting went into closed session, and a final communique will be released later today.

Conference Ends 11 July
MB111513 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The fourth summit of heads of state and government of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference member states, which began this morning, ended in Maputo this afternoon. In a press conference which marked the end of the summit, the heads of state and government of the SADCC expressed their concern over the losses caused by the drought in the region. They appealed to the international community for assistance to minimize the effects of this natural disaster.

The heads of state and government of the SADCC member countries have already begun to leave the capital of Mozambique on their way back home.

Meanwhile, the next SADCC donors conference is scheduled to take place in Lusaka, Zambia, between November and December of this year.

ANGOLA

RSA Said To Mass Troops on Namibian Border
MB111038 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] The People's Navy of Angola is celebrating its 7 years of existence. The Navy has developed continuously since its birth (?on 10 July) out of old vessels confiscated by the Angolan Government. This effects of this evolution are to be seen not only in its modern vessels, but also in its participation in more complex activities in the defense of our territorial waters. Thanks to the special attention that it has received since its founding on 10 July 1976, the Navy wields a high executive power to fulfill its complementary function within the national defense framework.

The main event in the celebration of this important date for our Armed Forces and the country as a whole took place in Lobito City, Benguela Province, where a great parade of officers, NCO's, and sailors was held this morning. The ceremony was presided over by Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, minister of defense of the People's Republic of Angola. The minister of defense announced on the occasion that the South African Army has amassed a great concentration of men and military equipment on the border with Namiba, an indication of Pretoria's intention to launch yet another large-scale attack against the People's Republic of Angola. He blamed this situation on international imperialism, particularly the United States, which makes use of South Africa as a spearhead in the region to achieve its expansionist (?design).

Savimbi Interviewed on Settlement Prospects
MB091058 Johannesburg The Star in English 8 Jul 83 p 8

[Interview with UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi by *Star* special correspondent Gwynne Roberts while he was in Angola "to cover the release by UNITA of the Czech and Portuguese hostages"]

[Text] London — "We know where the SWAPO bases are located, and if the order of Sam Nujoma is carried out by his forces to attack UNITA, they will be destroyed in less than three months," claims Dr Savimbi. "They are fighting in our country. They should not forget we gave them the base here.

"We told our people, 'These are the people of SWAPO. Give them food, give them machetes.' We are the people who took them in in June 1975, and they are still in that area. If they don't attack us, we don't attack them. If they launch an attack on us, then we crush them for the simple reason that our soldiers will never accept without answering an attack by SWAPO whom we have given shelter.

"If we did that, the soldiers might well come back here and say, 'You people are not serious.'

"In guerrilla terms, SWAPO is strong enough to cause South Africa headaches. If they did it in compact units, they could not be a match for South Africa.

"When they come to our country and launch an attack on UNITA on a guerrilla basis, we are are far better than SWAPO and they know it. There was one attack last year on May 30, and in one single attack we killed 540."

Dr Savimbi went on: "With the Katangese, we don't wait for them to attack us. Immediately we see them we attack. We don't want them in our country, and they have no war of liberation at all to fight. Anywhere we find them, we destroy them."

Asked about the prospective agreement between South Africa and Angola which at one time Dr Savimbi feared could lead to a cut-off in supplies, the UNITA leader said:

"The South Africans and the MPLA are still talking about that, but I don't think there is a possibility of them achieving a ceasefire in the near future."

Discussing a possible Namibian settlement, Dr Savimbi said:

"What I heard is the statement of Mr Eagleburger in California saying that the agreement of the independence of Namibia is almost complete and that what is left is only the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola. That's what we heard on June 22, the last statement from an American official. So I don't know if the agreement for withdrawal of the Cubans is close from what he said.

"He could say everything is just geared to the agreement, but now he is saying, 'Everything is ready in Namibia.'

"We are waiting for a move towards the total withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola." "So I don't really know whether they have made such substantial progress as we have heard two weeks ago."

Asked whether UNITA would be included in or excluded from any deal affecting Angola, Dr Savimbi said: "I don't think there is anyone who, to my knowledge, wants to include UNITA in any dealings....

"I don't see what the South Africans can gain by selling out UNITA. I don't have an assurance from them. But what has South Africa to gain — to buy the MPLA which has been built up by the Russians for years? Why all of a sudden would the MPLA be friends of the Americans and South Africans? I don't think South Africa has an interest to sell out UNITA.

"Secondly when the big powers are organising these dealings, if they leave out UNITA it is not so important to me — as long as the Angolan people don't leave us out. I am confident the people of Angola want us to be in, and we are going to be in because the people want us — that is decisive. Even if there is an agreement somewhere today, even if we don't get a single bullet from today, we cannot only survive, we can launch a major attack to reverse the total situation.

"We are prepared for everything," he said.

"If the situation goes on as it is, then we go on fighting. We have enough to create upheaval. We have units which are in reserve and not fighting. If they enter (the battle), they will be put to good use...."

UNITA Claims Corridor to Southern Zaire

MB091110 Johannesburg The Star in English 8 Jul 83 p 8

[By Gwynne Roberts]

[Text] London — Dr Savimbi's rebel forces claim to have achieved one of their long-term objectives — a corridor of access in Angola from the Namibian frontier to southern Zaire.

But government troops backed by the Cubans have launched a major offensive against UNITA in eastern Angola, a UNITA military intelligence chief said at the movement's main base at Jamba, just north of the Namibian frontier.

UNITA's push to the north has come through Angola's diamond-rich Lunda Province where Dr Savimbi claims to have placed a total of 3,000 men, composed mainly of 100-strong guerrilla squads — but also including a 600-man force of special commandos.

"Our people have already crossed from the Kangula area in the north and have entered 50 km into Zaire at one point," said the intelligence officer at a press briefing.

Whether UNITA's assessment of its strength in Lunda is accurate is difficult to tell because guerrilla movements tend to exaggerate their forces for propaganda purposes.

But the diamond-rich regions of the north are known to be a priority target for two reasons: Success in Lunda Province would allow Dr Savimbi to bolster his movement's own finances and increase its political independence and another supply line would make UNITA less vulnerable. Large stretches of the Zambian frontier are already controlled by UNITA forces, and the movement is introducing its own passport procedures along this border.

LESOTHO

Democratic Party Leader Criticizes ANC

MB110746 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The leader of the Lesotho United Democratic Party, Mr Charles Mofeli, says the African National Congress [ANC] should not be allowed to conduct clandestine and subversive activities against South Africa from his country. Speaking in a radio interview, Mr Mofeli said the ANC's activities were bringing about confrontation between South Africa and Lesotho.

Turning to the situation in Lesotho, Mr Mofeli said members of the ANC were regarded with suspicion and were a nuisance in the villages there because they looked down on the customs and traditions of the Basotho nation.

Mr Mofeli accused the prime minister, Dr Jonathan, of leaning on communist support to establish a dictatorship.

Speaking on the same radio program, Lesotho's foreign minister, Mr Evaristus Sekhonyana, said if South Africa could show his government any ANC terrorists who had attacked South African targets from bases in Lesotho, and prove that the Lesotho Government had connived with them, the Lesotho authorities would make a public apology. Mr Sekhonyana said his country had never favored mandatory sanctions against South Africa because trade ties between the countries were vital, and effective trade sanctions against South Africa would be disastrous for Lesotho.

MAURITIUS

Port Louis Announces 11 July Nomination Day

MB111548 Port Louis Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] In Mauritius, today is nomination day in view of the general elections to be held on 21 August. Candidates wishing to stand for the elections are to enlist themselves today in the country's nomination councils.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chissano Receives PRC Cultural Delegation

MB081945 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano, member of the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party, received in Maputo this afternoon the (Xiangcheng) group of circus performers and acrobats of the People's Republic of China. The ceremony was attended by Wang Hao, the Chinese ambassador in Maputo, and Luis Bernardo Honwana, the state secretary for culture.

Speaking on the occasion, the PRC ambassador expressed his satisfaction with the warm welcome accorded to his country's artistic delegation. The Chinese cultural group presented Minister Joaquim Chissano with a set of teacups and a collection of paints by artists from the Chinese region of (Xiangcheng).

Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano said on the occasion that the presence of the Chinese cultural delegation constituted another form of bringing together the people of China and Mozambique. The Chinese cultural group presented its exhibition in Maputo yesterday.

Group Continues Tour

MB111420 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The (Xiangcheng) group of circus perfomers and acrobats of the PRC will leave Maputo today for Pemba, Cabo Delgado Province, where it will present a series of exhibitions. The Chinese cultural group, which arrived in the country last week, has already presented a series of exhibitions in Maputo in accordance with its tour schedule. Last Friday, the Chinese cultural group was received by Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano, a member of the Political Bureau.

Delegation Returns From Prague Conference

MB110537 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] The Mozambique delegation that had gone to Prague to attend the World Assembly for Peace and Life Against Nuclear War returned to Maputo a few days ago. The representatives of our country to the international meeting defended the thesis that it is not only nuclear war which endangers human life, but also other means of extermination, such as famine, endemic diseases, and underdevelopment in general, which threatens life, thus preventing the peoples from enjoying peace and prosperity. Referring to underdevelopment, our representatives stressed that in our region underdevelopment is perpetrated by imperialism, which supports armed bands whose mission is to damage economic property and cause famine.

The Mozambique delegation to the international meeting included Daniel Banze, ambassador of Mozambique accredited to Zambia; (Isaias Funzamo), chairman of the Mozambique Red Cross; and (Abner Sansao Muthemba), secretary general of the Mozambique Association of Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples, among other personalities.

Meeting Called To Study Provincial Problems

MB070713 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] Major General Marcelino dos Santos, a member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and leader of Sofala, has announced that an important meeting will be held later today in Beira to study the great economic problems facing Sofala. At the meeting, which forms part of the effort to implement the decisions of the Fourth Congress, participants will analyze problems relating to the shipment of coal, railway and road transportation in Beira, the condition of the sugar factories in this central region, power, electric power, and other issues.

The state secretary for coal and petroleum products, the director of the National Sugar Institute, the directors of the Massambizi, Marromeu, Buzi, and Luabo sugar factories, district administrators, and other officials arrived in Beira yesterday to attend the meeting.

The meeting, as Marcelino dos Santos stated, is part of the struggle against famine, and a step toward the normalization of life in Sofala Province and the liquidation of the armed bandits.

Maj Gen Marcelino dos Santos announced that the meeting would take place during one of yesterday's working sessions of the Sofala Provincial Operative Command, which is expected to wind up its proceedings today. It was also decided to set up an editorial commission charged with the task of drawing up a report on the conclusions reached by participants at the meeting regarding the problems of district operative commands, the holding of [words indistinct] for the creation of these bodies, the voluntary registration of the unemployed, and other issues connected with implementing the ministerial guidelines on the evacuation of the jobless from the towns at the district level.

More Consumer Goods Available in Rural Areas

MB111354 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] A Mozambican minister has spoken of improvements in the supply of trade goods to the country's rural areas. Aranda da Silva, minister of internal trade, said after a visit to the northern province of Niassa that more goods were now available there for peasants to buy with money earned from their crops. The failure to supply enough consumer goods, tools, and seeds to the rural areas was one of the areas which the Fourth Congress of the Frelimo Party last April said had to be corrected. Mr da Silva said that there has been a marked improvement in some parts of Niassa. An example, he said, was that some districts had received a greater quantity of clothing in 1 month than in the previous 6 months put together. Large quantities of farm tools had also arrived in Niassa.

The decision to greatly increase the amount of goods for peasants to buy is expected to provide them with an incentive to grow more crops for the market and, therefore, to increase national food production.

Construction Cooperatives To Aid Jobless

MB071339 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] Two civil construction cooperatives will be set up in Inhambane City within the framework of the production campaign. Offices will be opened to register unemployed persons to be integrated into these cooperatives. The establishment of the cooperatives is part of the plan of action, with goals and deadlines, underway in the province. The plan was approved yesterday during the second session of the provincial operational command, which was presided over by Governor Jose Pascoal Zandamela.

Journalist Reports on Resistance Activities

Cites MNR Accomplishments

MB081411 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] An Italian journalist who has spent 10 days in bases of the Mozambique National Resistance movement, the MNR, says the former Mozambican Flight Lieutenant Adriano Bomba, who fled to South Africa in 1981, is the head of propaganda and information services of the MNR in Mozambique. The journalist, who asked not to be named, said that Mr Bomba told him that the MNR was fighting not only to replace the Frelimo government, but also to improve the living conditions of all Mozambicans.

The journalist said that the MNR was active in 90 percent of the country. He visited the provinces of Nampula in northern Mozambique, Tete in the western region, and Manica and Sofala in the central area. He said that the MNR forces now number between 15,000 and 20,000 and were producing their own food. The journalist said that he had seen maize fields and vegetable gardens maintained by civilians under MNR rule.

Notes Cubans With Frelimo

MB081434 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] An Italian journalist who is reported to have spent 10 days at bases of the Mozambique Resistance Movement in Mozambique says the movement now has between 15,000 and 20,000 members. Mr Giancarlo Coccia interviewed leaders of the movement and was allowed to report on its training and recruitment programs. He said he could testify for the strong anti-Marxist principles upheld by provincial commanders of the movement. Mr Carlo Coccia alleged that the Mozambique Frelimo Party was using Cuban military personnel posing as South African troops to harass civilians in rural areas to discredit the resistance movement.

NAMIBIA

DIE REPUBLIKEIN Sees Settlement Unlikely

MB100554 Windhoek Die Republikein in Afrikaans 6 Jul 83 p 4

[Editorial: "The Impact of UNITA"]

[Text] The blow dealt by UNITA to the ruling MPLA of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, which, coming as it did deep in the heartland, is not only one of its greatest battlefield successes thus far, but underlines once again the lack of political progress in the southern point of the blood-stained continent of Africa.

The UNITA success illustrates that not a millimeter of progress has been made in the protracted sovereignty debacle that has plunged Angola, which once thrived as a Portuguese colony, into a chasm, from which the light of independence has never shone strongly.

It also truly emphasizes the futility of the diplomatic wrangling which has been going on here in the south for the past few months.

It is an open secret that Eduardo dos Santos is saddled with serious divisions within the MPLA on the protracted bush war in the south of the country. On the one hand there are those who insist on reconciliation and peace with the MPLA leader in Angola for two basic reasons: to restore Angolan unity, and to end the punitive expeditions by South African troops against SWAPO. As for the latter, the attempts at peace originating within the MPLA were dashed by talks and alleged talks between South African diplomats and their Angolan counterparts in the Cape Verde Islands. It was a foregone conclusion that South Africa would not finalize an agreement with Angola if it did not imply an end to Angola playing host to SWAPO. This has contributed to an even greater lull in the SWAPO battle arena in the operational area of South-West Africa/Namibia.

While it is concealed or denied in the white South, it is an open secret in the frontline states that, in addition to the contact between Angola and South Africa in the Cape Verde Islands, there has also been contact between South Africa and UNITA. What it embraced has not been disclosed.

In fact, at the same time, Zimbabwe came forward with superficial assurances that it will not serve as a springboard for ANC attacks against South Africa. It was a rather necessary step, as the government of Robert Mugabe saw examples of South Africa's retaliation against Mozambique for harboring terrorist guerrillas.

Now UNITA has retaliated after earlier allegations that Cuban and East German forces would be deployed in this strange terrain to finally stop Jonas Savimbi and his fighters. In the operational area of South-West Africa/Namibia, two landmines exploded, claiming the lives of eight people. In South Africa it is alleged that proof can be given that four former ANC terrorists who were arrested had their bases in Zimbabwe.

This leaves a series of unanswered questions regarding the issue of whether any progress has been made in the many talks on southern Africa. As matters now stand, it seems that there has been a return to arms, although only temporary. Appropriately, Africa itself is proof of how fruitless violence is as a means for settling disputes.

In the cycle which is now nearing a gruesome end, previous initiatives are being condemned and unraveled. To get the southern African initiatives going again, it would be advisable to devise a completely new plan. Would a nonaggressive plan not be an alternative that could be put to the test?

SOUTH AFRICA

Understanding With Botswana on Refugees Reported

MB120705 Johannesburg The Citizen in English 8 Jul 83 p 2

[By Tony Stirling]

[Excerpt] South Africa is unlikely to mount retaliatory attacks against African National Congress bases in Botswana unless it appears the country is unable to maintain control over the activities of ANC elements within its borders. This was the message relayed by South African sources yesterday in response to publication of a Botswana invitation to South Africa to identify alleged ANC bases in Botswana.

An undertaking was also given that Botswana would act on information supplied by South Africa.

The Botswana invitation, according to the South African sources, was made some time ago. And, according to South African claims, areas in Botswana which it believes are acting as bases for the ANC have already been identified.

One of the problems encountered by South Africa since adopting a "hot pursuit" policy in regard to ANC bases, is definition of the word "base."

Neighbouring territories, including Botswana, insist they harbour only refugees — but South Africa insists that some of the so-called refugee agencies are acting either as direct staging posts for ANC infiltration into South Africa, as intelligence gathering agencies or for ANC activities against South Africa.

Official sources emphasized that two neighbouring states have been particularly active in attempting to curb direct ANC activities against South Africa. They are Swaziland and Botswana.

Commentary on Fourth SADCC Summit in Maputo

MB111716 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Station commentary: "Peaceful Coexistence and the Drought"]

[Text] The Southern African Development and Coordinating Conference [SADCC] has just held its fourth summit meeting in Maputo, and appropriately, the main discussion centered on economic development and security. The two are closely interrelated. The theme for the economic discussion was really set by a news report last week on effects of the present drought in the ill prepared SADCC countries. At least 10 million people in five southern African countries, excluding South Africa, will need emergency food aid if they are to survive the winter, according to a survey compiled from official information. The survey finding is a measure of a responsibility placed on southern African governments in respect of the economic developments of their people. The price of neglecting their duty is much higher than material discomfort and political dissatisfaction. It may lead to the death on a massive scale of ordinary people for whom a mismanaged economic system provides no relief when natural disaster strikes.

In these circumstances the Maputo summit ritual accusations of destabilization by South Africa are deadlier and unfortunate. In itself, blaming a scapegoat is a ploy to evade the challenges presented by harsh and complex realities. But in doing so its practitioners also continue to shy away from the essential requirements for development in their situation, that is, peaceful coexistence with one another and especially with South Africa.

Interstate cooperation is a prerequisite for economic development in southern Africa. The duty of governments to promote the welfare of their people cannot be fulfilled without acceptance of their responsibility to work for peaceful coexistance in the region. The reason, the interdependence of countries for the provision of essential economic services right across the spectrum, has been pointed out in innumerable political, and academic studies. Security, therefore, certainly is a matter of great concern to several leaders in these times. But, while the preoccupation with it consists of nonsensical allegations and not at strengthening security but at avoiding their own responsibility for it, both national and regional security, and economic development goals will be jeopardized. Regional instability will continue, and SADCC countries will remain dependent on international handouts to save their people from starvation when drought strikes, until their leaders show themselves willing to deal squarely with the demands of their situation.

Inkatha's Refusal Said a Blow to Proposed Reforms

MB111924 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 11 Jul 83 p 8

[Editorial: "A Stark Indictment"]

[Excerpt] Those who believe the government's policy of reform will solve any of the real problems confronting this country — or even that it is the first positive step in this direction — have been dealt a severe blow by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, who has indicated that his powerful Inkatha movement is unlikely to take part in the local black elections in November.

For it is this very policy, a policy that has been hailed by Nationalists and others as the milestone on the road to better race relations, that has turned Chief Buthelezi from an advocate of

participation in local elections into one of their most bitter antagonists.

Less than two years ago Chief Buthelezi, as leader of 750,000 members of the most powerful organised black movement in the country — and one of the most moderate — urged blacks to enter and take over the present township community councils and turn them "into chariots to rush our people to battle."

Yet last week, in his presidential speech at Inkatha's recent annual conference, Chief Buthelezi had this to say: "I believe that participation in black local authority structures linked through the political system may prove to be as treacherous as the Labor Party's decision to accept a role within the new constitutional innovations." Chief Buthelezi made it clear he saw the local councils as a second-class offering to blacks and as a poor substitute for representation in the new three-chamber Parliament for whites, Coloured and Indians.

Four AWB Men Appear in Court for Terrorism

MB111540 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Three Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [AWB] members and a former member have appeared in a Pretoria court. They have pleaded not guilty to a charge of terrorism and six alternative charges at a preliminary hearing in the Pretoria Regional Court.

The men are AWB leader Eugene Terre'blanche, members (Jan Groenewald) and (Dawid Frederick Botes), and former AWB member Jakob Daniel Viljoen. According to evidence in court, two trunks which were on exhibit contained among other things, 4 AK-47 rifles, 18 R-1 magazines, 1 Makarov pistol, and camouflage uniforms. The court heard the trunks were buried or hidden at farms in Cullinan and Delmas during 1982.

Bail of 1,000 rand was extended for all the men except Viljoen, who is serving a prison sentence.

ZAMBIA

Zambia, Congo Call on OAU To Solve Chad Problem

AB111250 Paris AFP in English 1236 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] Lusaka, July 11 (AFP) — Zambia and Congo have called on the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to try to solve the latest Chadian civil war through a negotiated settlement.

Africa should take steps to stop foreign intervention in Chad, Congo's President Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso said at a dinner hosted in his honour by Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda.

Colonel Sassou-Nguesso, who flew home Sunday night, said African countries which professed to have the best interest of the Chadian people at heart should refrain from intervening in Chad, whose problems were a shame to Africa, compounded by OAU reluctance to make a decision on the issue.

In a joint communique marking the end of the Congolese leader's visit, both countries called on the OAU to take steps to ensure national reconciliation in Chad.

Kaunda Discusses Wage Ceiling Structure

MB061329 Lusaka Zambia Daily Mail in English 28 Jun 83 p 1

[By *Mail* Reporter]

[Text] President Kaunda has directed that the 10 percent wage ceiling must be structured in such a way that the lowly paid benefit more than highly paid workers.

This explanation on the mode of implementation of the wage ceiling is likely to end the controversy on the issue because it is in line with the stand of the labour movement, which has always advocated the need to bridge the gap between the two income groups.

Addressing labour leaders at Lusaka's Mulungushi Hall yesterday, Dr Kaunda said it was important that every company adhered to such a method when awarding increments. "It is important that this 10 percent is structured in such a way that the lowly paid will get more of that 10 percent in any given company and the more highly paid will get less and less until we reach the apex where, perhaps, nothing should be given," he said.

The president reminded labour leaders who are demanding for free bargaining between workers' representatives and employers that one of the conditions of the recently concluded standby loan facility with the International Monetary Fund [IMF] was to limit wage rises to 10 percent. Warning against infringement of IMF conditions, Dr Kaunda, who spoke at length on causes of the present poor state of the economy, said the IMF loan was necessary because the nation was in dire need of foreign exchange to bring in raw materials for industries.

Most manufacturing industries were currently operating at "dangerously low percentages" and were unable to expand and employ more workers. In fact, he said, most industries were now specialising in reducing the labour force since they could not sustain operations and retain all workers in the absence of sufficient foreign exchange to import raw materials. "We have to fight this dangerous development, otherwise some more of us will find ourselves without jobs," he warned.

Among the measures the party and its government have taken to restructure the economy include the ongoing process of withdrawal of subsidies; making agriculture the base of the economy; paying farmers economic prices for their produce; initiating the establishment of only industries that will depend on local materials; and reorganising existing industries so that they rely more on locally produced raw materials.

All the measures the party and its government had taken and continued to implement were aimed at restructuring the economy on a realistic basis to facilitate quick economic recovery.

He appealed to labour leaders to study all the measures, especially ones contained in his address to the reconstituted Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation board held in the first week of February. The keynote address, in which the president emphasised the need to fight 'price sharks' taking undue advantage of the decontrolling of prices, is now being circulated. He said the speech, once studied, would enable labour leaders to explain the gravity of the prevailing situation to the workers so that they understood why they were now being asked to sacrifice.

"I pray that the good Lord will open your hearts and minds so that you can see the honesty and sincerity of purpose behind the moves we have taken and that you will be able to explain to your followers these grounds for the actions the party and its government are taking."

Dr Kaunda reiterated that Zambians must accept their country was poor and could no longer continue enjoying some luxuries which they could afford previously. He said: "So long as we do not accept this fact, our behaviour will continue to be falsely based. On the other hand, if we accept that we are a poor country and begin to behave likewise, our problems will be half-way solved."

The president dwelt at length on factors that have resulted in a deteriorating world economic situation pointing out that the 1973 sharp increases in oil prices, high cost of imports and the protectionist policies of the industrialised North had exacerbated the crisis.

Zambia, he repeated, would have been forced to close down loss-making Luanshya and Roan Antelope copper mines, but has refused to concede to pressure from minority shareholders because of the social and economic implications of such a move.

The president reaffirmed the party and its government's commitment to the principle of free bargaining between employers and workers' representatives. "In any situation where the economy is capitalist — state or private — or indeed in a mixed economy, this freedom to form trade unions and unfettered or free bargaining is essential, and in a democracy like ours it is a must."

After the opening address, labour leaders led by Zambia Congress of Trade Unions [ZCTU] chairman-general, Mr Frederick Chiluba, his deputy Mr Hubert Bweupe, the general secretary, Mr Newstead Zimba held talks with government leaders behind closed doors. The meeting will continue in plenary session this morning and is expected to end this afternoon.

Party Official Says Namibian Group Illegal
MB071919 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Jul 83

[Text] Central Committee member Reuben Kamanga said today that the secessionist Caprivi African National Union is operating illegally in Zambia.

Mr Kamanga said CANU, which broke away from the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, is not recognized by the state and is unregistered under the Societies Act.

Commenting on leadership quarrels in the organization, Mr Kamanga said the state was not aware of CANU's existence and this group has not even bothered to seek recognition. Stressing that the organization is illegal, Mr Kamanga reminded its members that they are operating against the laws of this country, adding that there is nothing to stop the law from taking its course.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Interviewed on Security Situation
MB090840 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0753 GMT 9 Jul 83

[Text] Bulawayo, July 9, SAPA — The government has provided extra security for the commercial farmers of Matabeleland in the form of additional arms and the reintroduction of the Agric-Alert system, the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe said in an interview published today.

Mr Mugabe spoke of the morale of the farmers and their dedication to farming, isolated as they were in areas where they were easy targets for the dissidents. The prime minister also spoke of the cooperation now being received from Botswana in efforts to eliminate the dissidents.

Mr Mugabe said: "The question of banditry must be viewed from the point of view of the existence in our midst of the party which has refused to abide by the verdict passed by the people during the last election — a verdict which gave my party the right to rule the nation. It's a politically motivated activity which these dissidents have resorted to and the motivation comes from the party led by Joshua Nkomo, Josiah Chinamano and others (ZAPU). We have coped with the dissident threat as best we could. In fact banditry would have assumed very great proportions had government not acted as swiftly as we did and had we not discovered those huge quantities of arms.

"Our problem is that of mopping up areas where dissident activity still remains, but by and large the country is peaceful. The fact that two villages burnt at Dombodema and Lupane does not speak of a continued threat, nor does it speak of a spread of dissident activity. Once they are refused sanctuary in Botswana, what remains for us to do is intensify our operations in the bordering areas where these activities remain.

"We are also aware that South Africa is trying to cash in on this. Some dissidents have been to South Africa for training and have been redeployed in the country."

Mr Mugabe added: "We have given the farmers additional security and they have their agric-alert system. We have given them additional arms. Both husbands and wives can be armed satisfactorily. We are also looking at the possibility of arming some of their servants so they can guard them when they are asleep or doing other duties."

Asked about the joint ZANU (PF)-ZAPU talks, the prime minister said: "We did agree that we would set up two teams and these two teams have met. Our side has made proposals to their side and we are expecting a reply from them. We are getting

reports from our organisers that hundreds and thousands of former ZAPU followers are joining our ranks," he said.

Minister Says Trade With RSA To Continue

MB080752 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 8 July 83

[Text] The Zimbabwean minister of economic planning and finance, Dr Bernard Chidzero, says Zimbabwe has no intention of cutting trade ties with South Africa. In an interview with a magazine in the city of Harare, Dr Chidzero said that the economies of Zimbabwe and South Africa had been linked since colonial times, and that it was not unique for two countries with differing social and political systems to trade with each other.

Turning to the economic situation in Zimbabwe, Dr Chidzero said there were severe problems ahead, and that foreign investments had been negatively affected because of bad publicity. Dr Chidzero said a shortage of skilled manpower, the recession in the West, and the drought was severely hampering agricultural production.

Contracts With TASS, ADN, BTA Planned

MB100829 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] Zimbabwe plans to widen its international news links. This was stated by the minister of information, post, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, in Harare, yesterday. Comrade Shamuyarira, who returned from Europe recently, said the government is signing contracts with TASS in the Soviet Union, ADN in the GDR, and the Bulgarian news agency in order to get news on the international situation.

He said Zimbabwe should not rely entirely on Western news agencies but should hear news from both socialist and capitalist countries. Comrade Shamuyarira said part of Zimbabwe's objectives in this year's world communications year include work on new communication links within the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference region in Africa.